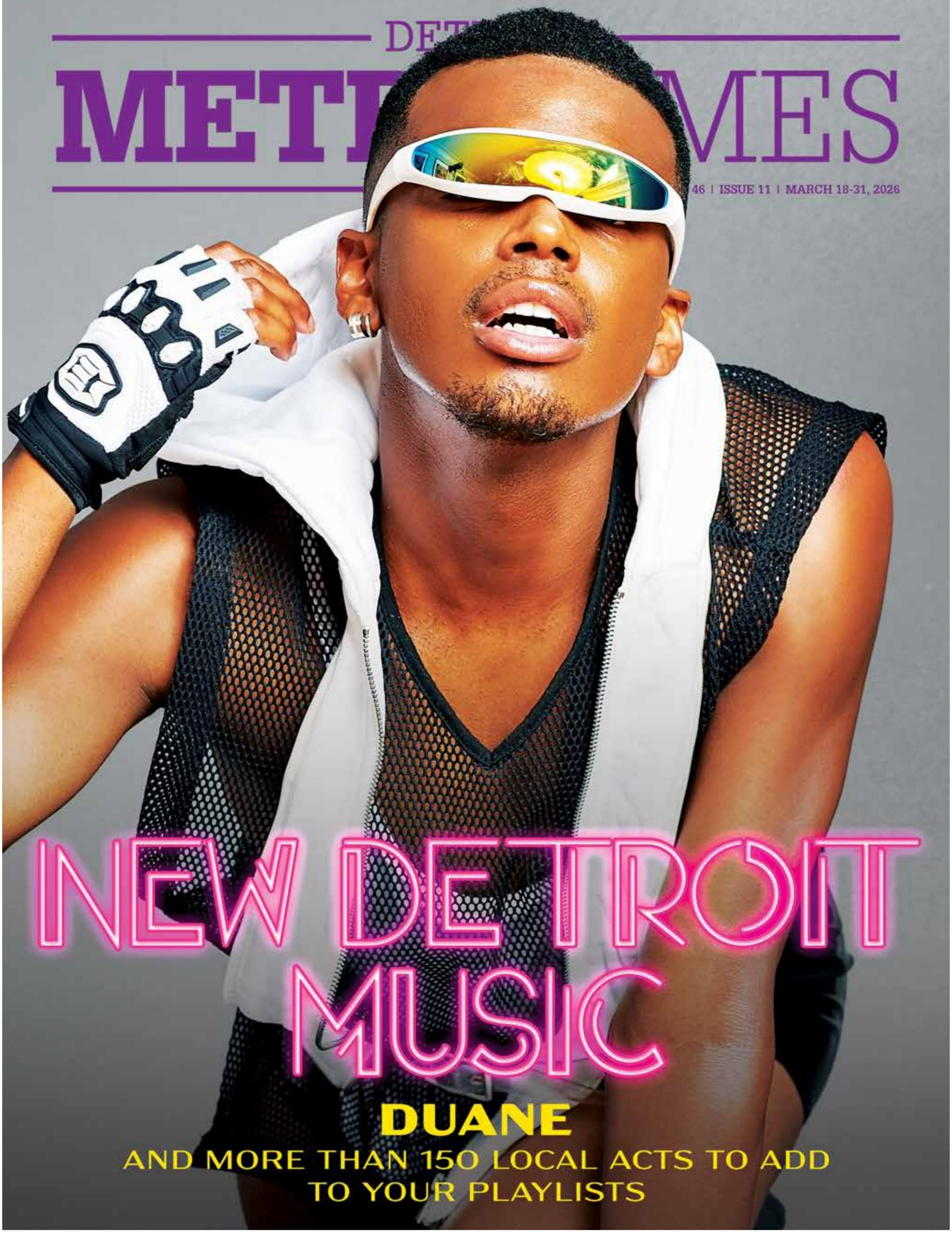
DET
METRO TIMES

46 | ISSUE 11 | MARCH 18-31, 2026



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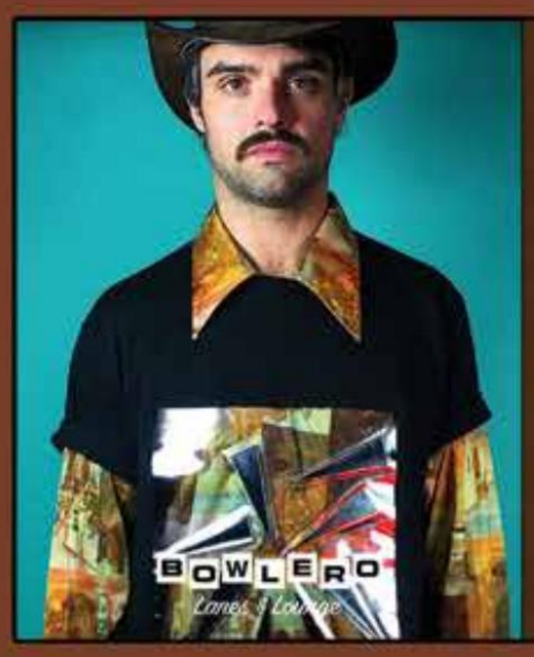

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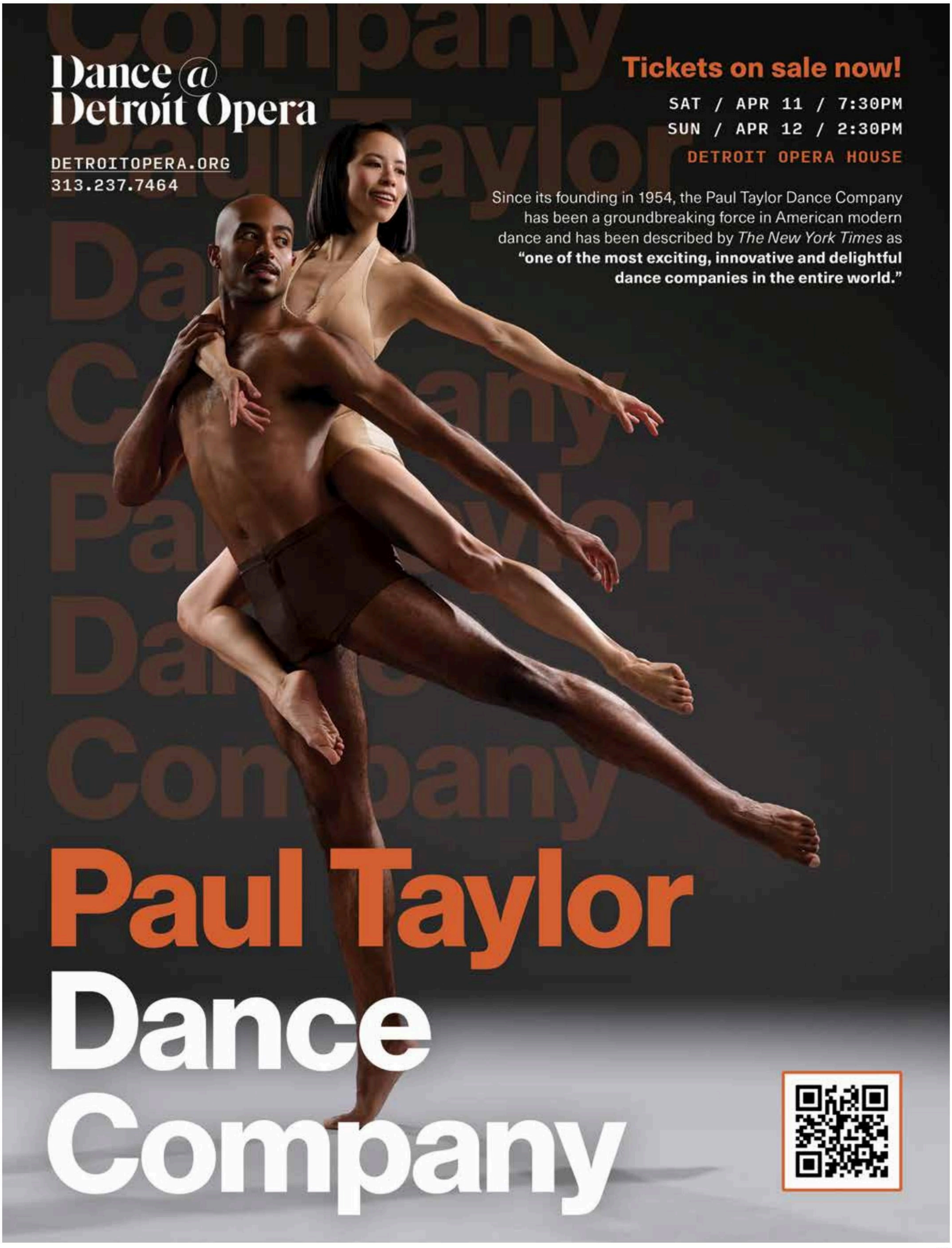

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4/25 Winds of Neptune/The Muggs/Solar Monolith
5/01 Echo Pilot/Solar Monolith/Permanently Pissed
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FILMS IN COMPETITION 10: UKRAINIAN SHORTS
SATURDAY, MARCH 28 | 3:30 pm | Michigan Theater Main Auditorium
This special focus on Ukrainian films includes a poetic film essay set in purgatory; a story of survival; a search for a roommate in Budapest; a jovial rumination on love and the passage of time; the toxic legacy of a Khimprom chemical plant; and a surreal night in the wilderness.

SPECIAL PROGRAM
OUT NIGHT 25th ANNIVERSARY
SUNDAY, MARCH 29 | 2:30 pm | Michigan Theater Screening Room
Every year since 2001, the Ann Arbor Film Festival has presented Out Night, a program of films that carry unique perspectives and experiences present in the LGBTQ+ community. The first iteration of Out Night, at the 39th festival, was titled Girls Out Night and included films by Deborah Strutt, Kristin Pepe, Monica Tullia Nolan, and Barbara Hammer. Each Out Night at the festival has provided unique reflections of the ever-changing climate from within and towards the queer community. In celebration of 25 years of the Out Night program, this program brings six AAFF award-winning Out Night films together to create an expansive reflection of queer voices over the years.

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Feedback

Readers respond to contributor Eli Day's recent article about the stunning turnaround of the Detroit Pistons, "Led by Cade Cunningham, the Pistons are making a run for it."

I forreal love this Pistons team so writing this was really special for me. Two years ago they went on a historically bad losing streak – I mean just committing serious crimes against winning all over the place. Now they're at the top of the East with real aspirations to compete for a championship.
—Eli Day, Facebook

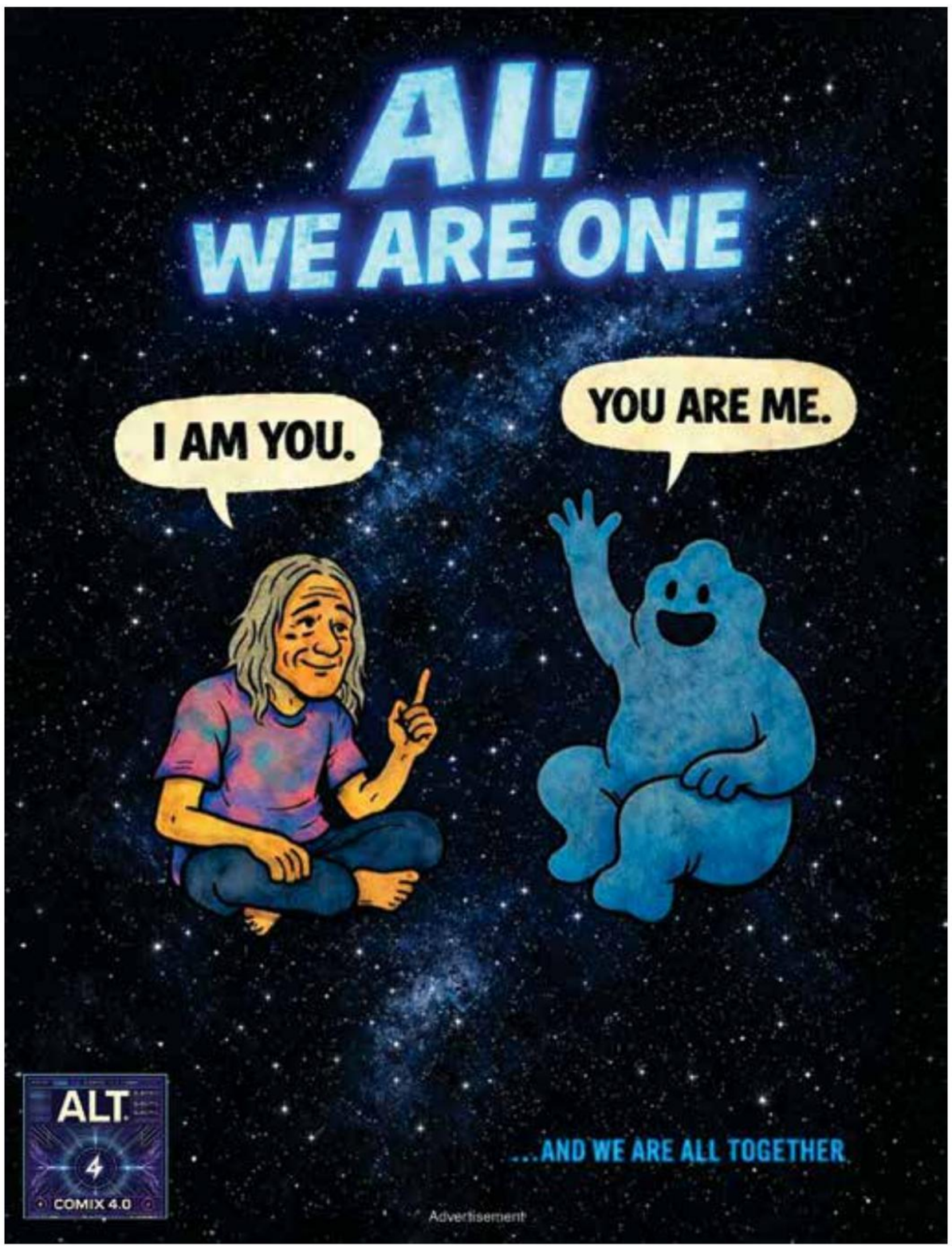
"committing serious crimes against winning" is in my lexicon now 💀
—Lauren Schandevel, Facebook

Let me tell you about my BROTHER‼️. His writing is unrivaled and you can tell that he deeply cares about the city of Detroit. I love my Detroit Pistons and I will remember this season for the rest of my life win or lose. Eli Day another exceptional job!
—Floyd E. White, Facebook

Seeing the turnaround from the inside makes it even more satisfying. Having my brother Eli continuously use his craft to dignify and uplift the City of Detroit is even cooler.
—Caleb Moss, Facebook

Deeeeeetroit basketball 🏀
—@obeyone931, Instagram

Great piece on the Pistons by Eli Day, my son. Good work. Count myself an "oldhead."
— Robert Day Facebook MT



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by TOM TOMORROW
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*A thing I actually said. Disclaimer: I do not know what words mean.
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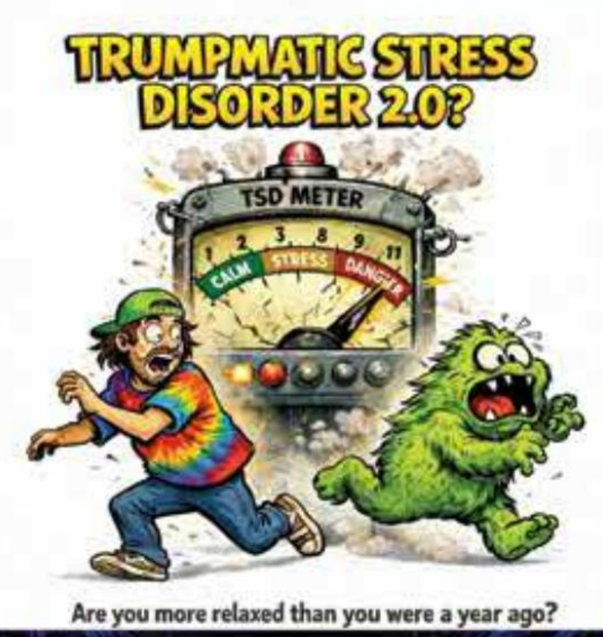
LIVE FOR TODAY, MAN

THIS TEXT REPLACES THE COMIC

THE COMIC IS THIS TEXT



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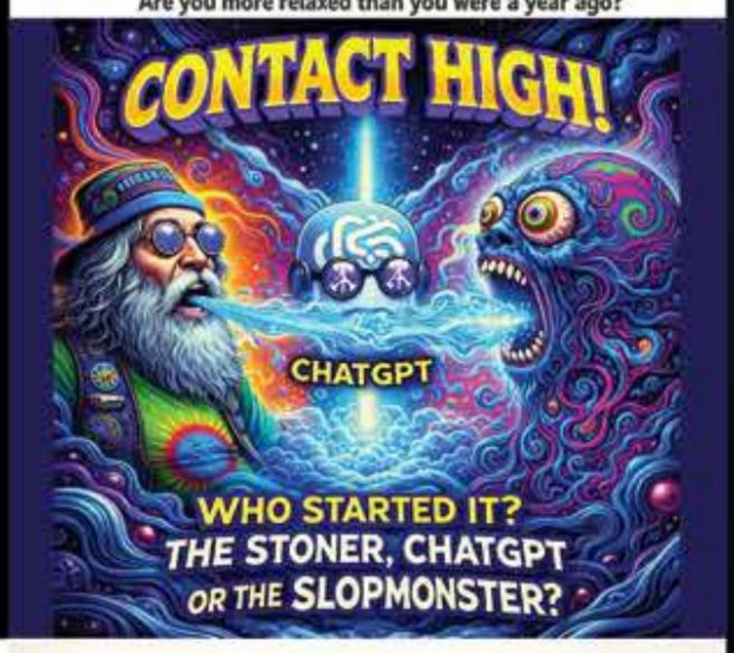

1952: John Cage premieres 4'33"
Silence

2026: *Slopmonster premieres 0.433"*
AI-generated white space

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"If you don't try, you will not succeed," says U.S. Rep. Shri Thanedar. COURTESY PHOTO

Why this Detroit Congressman keeps trying to impeach Trump officials

Congressman Shri Thanedar has filed articles of impeachment against U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi, the latest effort from the Detroit Democrat to hold high-ranking members of the Trump administration accountable.

Earlier this month, Thanedar introduced H.Res.1105, which in part accuses Bondi of covering up the investigation into disgraced financier and child sex trafficker Jeffrey Epstein, an associate of President Donald Trump.

It's not the first time Thanedar has either filed or supported articles of impeachment against the Trump administration. Previously, Thanedar announced charges against Trump and U.S. "Secretary of War" Pete Hegseth. None have been brought to a vote yet, and leaders in the Democratic Party have even gone on the record to discourage the efforts, saying they don't have enough votes.

But Thanedar — who assumed office in the House of Representatives in 2023 and whose Congressional district includes parts of Detroit, Downriver, and the Grosse Pointes — says he is undeterred.

"We've got to keep fighting," Thanedar tells *Metro Times* by phone. "We don't have to be assured of a win to fight. If we think something is the right thing to do, we should do it."

He adds, "Because every fight in history — whether it's voting rights, whether it's women's rights, every fight — we never were assured or guaranteed of a win, but because we believed in the cause so much that we pursued it."

Thanedar notes that he was one of 70 members of the House of Representatives to support an impeachment effort against former U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem accusing her of obstructing oversight of immigration detention facilities, of directing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents to conduct mass warrantless arrests, and of self-dealing, including claims that she inappropriately used $220 million in taxpayer funds for an ICE recruitment ad campaign starring herself.

In a Congressional hearing earlier this month, Noem claimed Trump approved the ad campaign, which Trump denied. He fired her shortly after, reportedly angry over her handling of the recruitment campaign.

"Look at Kristi Noem, you know, I signed on to impeach her," Thanedar explains. "I asked her when she came to my committee if she will resign if she's not fired. But all of that contributed to getting rid of her. Even though we are a minority, we were able to have enough public opinion to bring enough pressure through our testimonies, and through subpoenas, and through our interviews, that ultimately we succeeded."

Thanedar's articles of impeachment against the President, introduced in April of last year, cited the Trump administration's refusal to comply with a Supreme Court order to facilitate the return of Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia, a Maryland man who was mistakenly deported to El Salvador.

"And then they brought him back," Thanedar notes. "So now he's a free man."

The articles of impeachment accuse Bondi of obstruction of Congress, obstruction of justice and dereliction of duty, and weaponization and politicization of the Department of Justice.

The first article of impeachment concerns the Epstein Files Transparency Act, which called on the Department of Justice to release all files related to the investigation of Epstein, who died in 2019 in a high-security federal correctional facility in New York City under mysterious circumstances. Bondi only released some of the tranche of files after the legislation's Dec. 19, 2025 deadline, and withheld files concerning allegations against Trump.

The release of "The Epstein Files" has drawn concern across the political spectrum, with an autoworker in Dearborn calling Trump a "pedophile protector" to his face during a visit to a Ford plant earlier this year, drawing Trump's ire.

"This is the biggest cover up in U.S. history," Thanedar says. "All of this pales Watergate."

The articles of impeachment also include allegations that the Department of Justice dropped corruption charges against New York City Mayor Eric Adams due to quid pro quo; authorized a $400 million Qatari jet for Trump despite constitutional prohibitions and Bondi's own conflict of interest as a former Qatari lobbyist; and closed an FBI probe into "Border Czar" Tom Homan taking a $50,000 bribe, among others.

They also accuse the Department of Justice of partisan weaponization on behalf of Trump, including launching bogus investigations into his political enemies.

Bondi's office did not respond to a request for comment from *Detroit Metro Times*.

Thanedar says he is focusing on the articles of impeachment against Bondi for now, but is ready to push the efforts against Trump and Hegseth when the timing is tight.

"I am waiting for a right moment to call to get a vote on those," Thanedar says. "But we've done the work. We've done the investigation. We have documented it, and we have filed it."

Trump was impeached by the U.S. House twice for actions taken during his first term from 2017-2020. The first impeachment came in 2019 on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress, stemming from his attempt to pressure Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to investigate Joe Biden in exchange for military aid. The second impeachment against Trump came in 2021 on a charge of incitement of insurrection following the Jan. 6, 2021 Capitol riot.

Both times, the Senate voted to acquit

Trump. Though a majority of the Senate found Trump guilty of the insurrection charges, including seven Republicans, the vote failed to reach the necessary supermajority.

"Right now, the Republican members of Congress are intimidated by the President," Thanedar says. "He is, you know, very vindictive. And the rank and file Republican lawmakers aren't willing to go against the President at this time. But a time will come where the public sentiment has changed."

Thanadar claims Republicans in Congress have privately told him they support the impeachment efforts. He also believes that backlash to Trump's policies could sway opinion, including tariffs deemed illegal by the U.S. Supreme Court and launching strikes on Iran that caused markets to swing Monday.

"The gas prices have gone up," Thanedar says. "People are against this illegal war that was not authorized by Congress. And, you know, the public opinion is shifting. The president is underwater on immigration. He's underwater on [the] economy. And now he's underwater on foreign policy."

Thanedar also believes that these actions could cause the Republican Party to face consequences in the upcoming midterm elections.

"Hopefully if he doesn't get the message yet, then I believe in November people will have an opportunity to send a strong message to Donald Trump," Thanedar says.

In the meantime, Thanedar says he will continue to file articles of impeachment against Trump officials, odds be damned.

"I want to keep fighting," he says. "My constituents want me to fight and I want to continue to fight, and I'm not going to worry about the consequences. It's the right thing to do ... and there will be a time when others will start seeing why this is the right thing to do and they'll join us."

—Lee DeVito

Rashida Tlaib introduces legislation to defend people who expose government corruption

During the Vietnam War, Daniel Ellsberg — a peace activist from Michigan who had worked as an analyst in the U.S. Department of Defense — became so disillusioned with the quagmire that he leaked a critical top-secret report dubbed the "Pentagon Papers" to *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and other newspapers. In retaliation for him trying to tell the truth to the American people, the government charged him under the Espionage Act of 1917, among others, and he faced a maximum prison sentence of 115 years. After a judge dismissed the charges, Ellsberg spent the rest of his life advocating for peace and transparency until he died of cancer in 2023 at age 92.

In honor of Ellsberg's bravery, Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib of Detroit has introduced the Daniel Ellsberg Press Freedom and Whistleblower Protection Act. The legislation calls for reforms to the Espionage Act to prevent its abuse in stifling the freedom of speech of whistleblowers, journalists, and the American people who expose government corruption.

"Alerting the public to government wrongdoing is not a crime," Tlaib said in a statement. "The Espionage Act has been abused by administrations of both parties to target whistleblowers and journalists for sharing critically important information with the public. With whistleblowers, journalists, and civil liberties under significant attack and government decision-making shrouded in increasing secrecy, reining in the abuses of the Espionage Act could not be more urgent."

Aside from Ellsberg, the Espionage Act has been used to attempt to silence other government whistleblowers and leakers, including Chelsea Manning, Edward Snowden, and Julian Assange. More recently, the FBI raided the home of a *Washington Post* reporter in January who spoke to more than 1,000 government whistleblowers in what critics called "a tremendous escalation in the administration's intrusions into the independence of the press."

The Daniel Ellsberg Press Freedom and Whistleblower Protection Act would reform the Espionage Act by limiting its scope to government employees with a legal duty to protect classified information, increasing due process standards and safeguards for whistleblowers, and requiring the government prove that a defendant acted with the specific intent to harm the United States or benefit a foreign power.

"For too long, presidential administrations of both parties have weaponized the outdated Espionage Act to criminalize the whistleblowers and journalists who expose government wrongdoing," said Lauren Harper, the Daniel Ellsberg Chair on Government Secrecy at Freedom of the Press Foundation. "Representative Tlaib's bill finally brings this law in line with essential First Amendment protections, ensuring it can no longer be used as a cudgel against the free press. This legislation rightly prioritizes the public's right to know over baseless, self-serving secrecy claims."

The legislation is cosponsored by Representatives Jesús "Chuy" García (IL-04), Summer Lee (PA-12), Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC), Ilhan Omar (MN-05), Delia Ramirez (IL-03), and Shri Thanedar (MI-13). It is endorsed by American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Amnesty International USA, Center for Constitutional Rights, Coalition for Women in Journalism, Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), Defending Rights & Dissent, Demand Progress, Ellsberg Initiative for Peace and Democracy, Fight for the Future, Freedom of the Press Foundation, Government Information Watch, Just Foreign Policy, Project on Government Oversight (POGO), Radio Television Digital News Association, Reporters Without Borders, Restore the Fourth, RootsAction, Society of Environmental Journalists, Society of Professional Journalists, Whistleblower & Source Protection Program (WHISPeR) at ExposeFacts, and X-Lab.

—Lee DeVito

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No Cover / 7-10pm / 21+

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Neighborhood residents argued the project would damage the landscape and set a dangerous precedent. STEVE NEAVLING

Judge rules Detroit Thermal cannot run steam lines across historic Lafayette Park

A Wayne County judge has ruled that Detroit Thermal does not have the legal right to run steam lines across private property in Detroit's historic Lafayette Park neighborhood, delivering a major victory to residents of the townhome cooperatives.

Circuit Court Judge Annette Berry recently granted partial summary disposition to the cooperatives and declared that Detroit Thermal cannot use the property to provide steam service to buildings outside the Lafayette Park subdivision. Entering the property for that purpose "exceeds the scope of the easements and constitutes a trespass," Berry ruled.

The decision resolves a key legal question in the case, which centers on whether decades-old utility easements allow Detroit Thermal to revive dormant steam lines that have not been used since the 1980s. The company had argued the easements allowed it to access the property to restore steam service to the nearby 1300 Lafayette East Cooperative tower after the building's aging boilers failed in 2022.

Residents of the townhomes, which were designed by famed modernist architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and are part of the nationally recognized Lafayette Park historic district, challenged the plan. They argued that Detroit Thermal was attempting to expand narrow utility easements originally granted to Detroit Edison in the 1950s for a different purpose, which at the time was for heating the townhomes themselves, and could not legally use the corridor to serve another building outside the subdivision.

The dispute intensified last year after Detroit Thermal fenced off a playground and portions of the townhomes' shared greenspace and brought in equipment to examine the dormant lines, prompting residents to file suit.

Berry later issued a temporary restraining order blocking the work while the case moved forward.

In a previous ruling in December 2025, Berry rejected Detroit Thermal's attempt to dismiss the lawsuit and allowed the residents' claims to proceed toward trial. The judge found that the easements were limited in scope and that the residents had plausibly argued they were abandoned or revoked when the townhomes switched from steam heat to natural gas decades ago.

Berry also rejected Detroit Thermal's argument that the dispute should be handled by the Michigan Public Service Commission, rather than a court, ruling that the agency regulates utility rates and service, not property ownership or quiet title disputes.

In a statement to *Metro Times*, Detroit Thermal said the ruling addressed only one part of the lawsuit. The company said the court determined that a public easement shown on the 1957 Lafayette Park subdivision plat could be used to serve properties within the subdivision but not outside it. Detroit Thermal said it still claims rights under earlier easements from 1950 and 1951, which were created before the subdivision was platted, as well as a prescriptive easement based on historical use of the steam lines.

A company spokesperson did not say whether Detroit Thermal plans to appeal.

The court ruling is also a blow to the former Mayor Mike Duggan administration, which inserted itself in the case by arguing in favor of Detroit Thermal. Behind the scenes, the administration worked to override historic preservation staff and steer the project through Detroit's Historic District Commission (HDC), despite warnings it would cause irreversible damage to the nationally recognized landscape.

In July 2025, *Metro Times* revealed that Duggan's family stood to benefit from the steam heat. Those family members include Duggan's son, Patrick, who owns one of the units; Duggan's brother, Dan, who owns another unit; and Duggan's niece, Sydney, who lives there.

Despite the recent ruling, some of the case is still unresolved, including competing trespass allegations by both sides. The case is currently scheduled for trial on March 24.

Residents have said they weren't opposed to improving utility service. Their objection was to what they viewed as an attempt to use their private property for infrastructure that was never authorized by the original easements. They have argued that allowing the project to proceed would damage the historic landscape and set a precedent for expanding utility rights across private property in the neighborhood.

Lafayette Park, widely regarded as one of the most important collections of modernist residential architecture in the U.S., was designed by Mies van der Rohe as part of Detroit's mid-20th-century urban renewal effort. The townhomes are surrounded by landscaped open space that residents say is central to the design and character of the historic district.

—Steve Neavling MT

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DUANE mixes ghettotech and pop with ambitious new project

NEW DE TROIT MUSIC

The Detroit artist DUANE has gone by a number of names.

"I've lived a lot of lives, is what I say," the artist tells Metro Times.

Over the years he has performed as the Teenage Weirdo (a self-described lo-fi '80s-themed "performance art act" that caught the attention of Jack White, who released a single on his Third Man Records), the house-influenced Brand New Dog, and the Jet Black Eel, a project he describes as "'70s glam rock, a little bit country" that was inspired by Detroit's indie rock scene and the death of David Bowie.

For his latest act, he's dropped the titles: he's just DUANE now. But he's not alone.

For the past year or so, he's performed his own version of Detroit ghettotech, a genre of electronic music made popular in the '90s and 2000s known for its repetitive hooks. But DUANE is no DJ act: he performs complete with a crew of backup Jit dancers, a high-energy footwork-based style that originated in the Motor City.

Earlier this month, the group performed as part of the Hamtramck Blowout music festival, and it appeared at events around town as part of Detroit's 313 Day festivities.

"I feel like it's something I'm supposed to be doing," DUANE says of the new project.

On tracks like "Up D Scoe," DUANE says he draws equal inspiration from turn-of-the-millennium pop acts like Britney Spears and NSYNC as well as Detroit ghettotech and techno artists like DJ Assault, Blake Baxter, and DJ Godfather.

"With this project, I really wanted to reference things that really made me, and my earliest memories, way back in '99, as a little kid," he says. "One was seeing Britney Spears on TV playing '...Baby One More Time.' And my neighbors next door, they always had loud parties when I was a little kid, and they would play ghettotech and booty music. It wasn't until much later, as an adult, I found out about it. It was a sound that I just grew up listening to. It was just around me, you know?"

He adds, "I wear my influences heavy on my sleeve."

He says as a child, he and his classmates would even sing, "soap and water, soap, soap, and water" as they washed their hands — not realizing the line came from DJ Assault's raunchy club banger "Ass N Titties."

"I've always appreciated the sounds that Detroit's known for, as far as electronic music," DUANE says. "I have a long playlist of great techno tracks that I listen to when I go to the gym, just nice background music. But when it comes to ghettotech in particular, I really like that it's very more stripped back and focused more on a personality. It's very close to pop music. DJ Assault is, he's a hook guy, you know, very repetitive."

A cousin of sorts to Miami booty music, ghettotech has seen a revival in recent years, with other Detroit acts like HiTech riffing on the genre. And you can still catch DJ Assault perform at clubs around town.

"When I want to hear some of Detroit's classic electronic music, I tend to go to that genre because it's the closest thing to pop music," DUANE adds. "Versus, like, listening to the Underground Resistance guys — which, you know, I appreciate. I like it. I sometimes sample some of their work, too, and I reference it, but it's more atmospheric when compared to ghettotech and booty music."

DUANE says he also wants to give his performances more of a pop music flair by incorporating choreography into his shows. To that end, he has collaborated with King L1 and other backup dancers from Jit Masters, a Detroit-area organization dedicated to teaching and preserving the dance style.

"I really wanted to do something like what Madonna did with vogue dancers," DUANE explains.

"Right now, our main focus is making the best live show I can do," he adds.

DUANE has a new manager now, Nicky Baby LLC, and says he's seeking a producer to work with to help bring his music to life.

"The big difference between now and all the other projects is that I was doing everything myself," he says. "And there's a lot more people connected now. Things get bigger and spread more when there's collaboration. That's something I've never really learned until now."

He says he has been particularly grateful for the mentorship of Stacey "Hotwaxx" Hale, a pioneering DJ, producer, and educator known as the "Godmother of House Music."

"She volunteered to do my sound for the Blowout Festival," DUANE says. "She just can't help herself. She wants to make sure everything sounds good. ... She's got that old-school wisdom."

At a time when economic pressures favor DJs over bands or other live music projects, the artist says he's trying to do something ambitious and fun.

"A lot of things are all in place right now," he says. "It's just all right there. We just have to just put the work in." MT

—Lee DeVito

MORE NEW MUSIC

SUPPORT LOCAL ARTISTS AND ADD THESE TRACKS TO YOUR PLAYLISTS

We asked, and metro Detroit answered.
For the second year, we put out a survey calling on local artists to share their music with us as well as a little bit about themselves. And they delivered! From garage rock to Soundcloud rappers, here's a snapshot of the local music scene in 2026. Be sure to add these tracks to your playlists and check out these artists when they perform at a dive bar near you. —*Lee DeVito*

The Warped Tourists
Latest release: *This Next One's a Cover* (LP)
Genre: pop punk, punk, re-interpretive covers
Standout track: "Wonderwall"
"The band that answers the question, what if this was a punk song?"
thewarpedtourists.bandcamp.com

Chuck Daniels
Latest release: *So What* (EP)
Genre: house
Standout track: "So What"
"Uplifting funky house music with inspirations from Detroit, Chicago, and New York."
spotify.com

Devin Jetski
Latest release: "Can't Stop" (single)
Genre: house
Standout track: "Can't Stop"
"An emerging producer and DJ whose sound focuses on the intersection of high-energy house and dynamic techno. He's released on Kevin Saunderson's KMS Records, Flashmob, Alleanza Recordings, and Purple Tea."
instagram.com/devinjetski

Checker
Latest release: *I Really Do Believe* (set for release April 20)
Genre: rock
Standout track: "Hot Damn," "Armageddon," "Walk-in Attic"
"Rock for off-colored people."
checkerworldwide.weebly.com

spare key
Latest release: *the space between places* (LP)
Genre: electronic
Standout track: "somewhere in the clouds"
"spare key is the electronic music project of Detroit-based producer and composer mat larimer. blending atmospheric textures, driving rhythms, and emotive sound design, the project lives somewhere between club propulsion and cinematic introspection. spare key explores themes of movement, memory, and liminality — crafting immersive sonic worlds that feel both transportive and deeply personal."
matlarimer.com/sparekey

Tiffany Blade
Latest release: *Breakfast at Tiffany's 2* (LP)
Genre: hip-hop, rap
Standout track: "A.T.L."
"Unique style and sound. Real talent and timeless music."
tiffanyblade.hearnow.com

DFRNT
Latest release: *Crown Chronicles* (LP)
Genre: alternative
Standout track: "Better"
"A musical experience that allows you to dream fearlessly and regret nothing."
instagram.com/dfrnt_ye

Kay Nucents
Latest release: *The Passing Lane* (EP)
Genre: techno, electronica
Standout track: "rocketSHIPS"
"Kay Nucents is the new generation of Detroit techno."
kaynucents.bandcamp.com

Checker. COURTESY PHOTO

Wisher
Latest release: "Aqua De Vida" (single)
Genre: symphonic metal
Standout track: "Get Off"
"High energy, theatrical heavy metal representing the passionate metal heads and fantastical nerds who love a great variety of music."
wisher-band-official.com

Jay Money
Latest release: "Own Lane" (single)
Genre: rap
Standout track: "Own Lane"
"I'm an upcoming artist from Southwest Detroit! I'm 29 years old and have been doing music for about four years."
youtube.com/@JayMoney313SW

Haywise_official
Latest release: *YOU* (EP)
Genre: afrobeats, afropop
Standout track: "Ecstasy"
"Haywise_official is a genre-blending Afrobeat/Afropop musician that fuses raw emotion with bold, modern sound — creating music that feels both deeply personal and universally powerful. Their energy-driven style connects authentic storytelling with infectious rhythms that move both the heart and the crowd."
bio.site/haywise

falooshh
Latest release: "hurt people hurt people" (single)
Genre: neo-soul, alternative, Motown
Standout track: "hurt people hurt people"
"Detroit multi-instrumentalist Falooshh filters bedroom-pop immediacy through a horn player's ear — arrangements with trombone and trumpet at the center, R&B and alt textures around the edges. Expect warm brass lines, unhurried grooves, and a live band built to move a room."
falooshh.com

Second Salem
Latest release: *Losing Hope* (EP)
Genre: metal
Standout track: "Losing Hope"
"Metalcore with a gothic edge, music for anyone who has ever felt 'othered' and a safe space for all."
secondsalemofficial.com/bio

The Plutophonics
Latest release: *We Met A Turtle That Year* (LP)
Genre: soul, funk, alternative
Standout track: "Slöth"
"The Plutophonics deliver a unique cacophony of retro-funk styled alternative rock. Intricate compositions, paired with soaring vocal melodies, backed by the finest, most relentless grooves."
linktr.ee/theplutophonics

Detroit Ché
Latest release: *CHIZZY THE MIXTAPE* (mixtape)
Genre: rap, hip-hop
Standout track: "DETROIT CHIZZY"
"I'm a recording artist, producer, director, and model from the Westside of Detroit. My musical work is built from the things I've survived, the things I've witnessed, and the emotions I never knew how to say out loud. Through music and visuals, I channel the raw parts of my life and my community — the culture, the hurt, the pride, and the hope – and give it a platform to be seen and felt."
instagram.com/detroitche

The Hourlies
Latest release: *Ritual Incantations Vol. 1* (set for release April 10)
Genre: garage psych
Standout track: "Numbers"
"Pure rock fury on psychedelics in the basement. An upcasted fireball in a small room."
thehourlies.bandcamp.com

Michelle Held
Latest release: "Another Jane" (single)
Genre: singer-songwriter, folk
Standout track: "Another Jane"
"Michelle Held is a contemporary American folk singer-songwriter with a poet's ear, whose quietly luminous work listens deeply to life's complexities."
michelleheld.com

Zoe Smoove
Latest release: "RESILIENCE" (single)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "MO"
"My music is a raw, poetic blend of personal storytelling and resilience, drawing from real-life struggles and triumphs to inspire and connect."
youtube.com/@zoesmoove7036

The Bores
Latest release: *Attack of the Pizza Zombies* (LP)
Genre: punk
Standout track: "Talkin' to You"
"Snotty power punk with a ferocious tempo."
instagram.com/theboresdetroit

CHA$EMONEY
Latest release: *All About Da Vibe* (LP)
Genre: hip-rop, rap, R&B
Standout track: "Pretty Body"
"I'm an independent artist from Detroit who began making music while playing football at Youngstown State University. What started as a personal outlet quickly became a passion for creating authentic, relatable music that people can connect to and vibe with."
beacons.ai/chasemoney1k

Ace Bugey
Latest release: "Don't Back Down" (single)
Genre: hip-hop, rap
Standout track: "Friday"
"Motivational and representative of the working class individuals who have bigger dreams and aspirations."
bugey.bandcamp.com

The Eastside Banda
Latest release: "New Horse" (single)
Genre: world
Standout track: "New Horse"
"Russian romance blended with Detroit jazz."
youtube.com

Powers of the Monk
Latest release: *Power Trippin'* (EP)
Genre: indie rock, pop, psych folk
Standout track: "Bread & Circuses"
"Powers of the Monk is a duo from Detroit: David Monk (vocals, guitars, and keyboards), CasSondra Powers (vocals, violin, and keyboards), and John O'Reilly Jr. (drums)."
instagram.com/powersofthemonk

JHarry
Latest release: *When You Step on A Tiger's Tail* (EP)
Genre: hip-hop, rap, alt rap
Standout track: "FEEL LIKE THIS"
"JHarry is a Detroit-rooted alternative rap artist blending sharp lyricism, legal precision, and cinematic production into music about ambition, faith, and autonomy. His sound bridges luxury rap and introspection, grounded in Midwest grit and long-term vision."
gettothecorner.com

super*user
Latest release: *Gutless Wonder* (LP)
Genre: indie punk
Standout track: "Here For You"
"Detroit's super*user hits with the urgency of a band rooted in a friendship that began long before the first note. Their songs examine digital life, death, and the ghosts we carry, all set against raw, melodic indie punk grit."
superuser313.bandcamp.com

Leadfoot Granny
Latest release: *Leadfoot Granny* (LP)
Genre: rock
Standout track: "Sunny Rays Around the Corner," "Brown Leather"
"Rock and roll steeped in tradition yet fresh and brand new."
leadfootgrannyofficial.com

Carl B. Phillips
Latest release: "Good To See You In Church Today" (single)
Genre: gospel
Standout track: "Good To See You In Church Today"

CRUNE. COURTESY PHOTO

"Carl B. Phillips is a Detroit-based gospel artist whose musical style is defined as a blend of traditional gospel with a contemporary groove. His sound is deeply rooted in his 50-year tenure in the gospel industry and the rich musical heritage of Detroit."
carlbphillips.com

Junii
Latest release: *jinx! DELUXE* (LP)
Genre: hip-hop, alternative soul
Standout track: "jinx!/weplayedthegame" ft. Kaelin Ellis
"Authentic/Evolving."
jutopiaxx.com

Louie Lee
Latest release: *Future* (LP)
Genre: country, pop
Standout track: "Take This Echo With You"
"Louie Lee is a Michigan-born artist blending country storytelling, hip-hop cadence, rock energy, and Motown soul into a sound he calls Country Hop & Roll. Rooted in Midwest grit and driven by authenticity, his music speaks to the ones in between. Some say he's too country for the city, too city for the country. Louie doesn't chase genres or trends; he builds culture, backed by a loyal community known as the Bandits."
thelouieleeshow.live

The Formal Nightmare
Latest release: *El Panteón* (LP)
Genre: death, thrash metal
Standout track: "HORROR"
"A three-piece death-thrash band from Downriver."
theformalnightmare.bandcamp.com

YIMES
Latest release: *YY* (LP)
Genre: ambient
Standout track: "Evening Creek"
"Yimes is a cinematic instrumental collaboration crafting expansive, high-fidelity soundscapes that blend post-rock scale with ambient restraint. Rooted in texture, atmosphere, and emotional lift, the project moves like a slow-burning horizon — patient, immersive, and quietly powerful."
yimesmusic.com

Tino Gs Dumpster Machine
Latest release: "Trouble" (single)
Genre: rock, funky blues
Standout track: "Trouble"
"Detroit is our home and our music reflects the greatest Music City — it's also fun, rockin, funky, and gritty."
tinogsdumpstermachine.com

chandra
Latest release: *thoughts on agape* (EP)
Genre: alternative
Standout track: "you know i'm not perfect"
"chandra is an alternative multi genre experience which consists of rock, blues, and Carnatic fusion."
submithub.com/link/thoughts-on-agape-ep

Bk Paystyle
Latest release: "2KIDS" (single)
Genre: rap
Standout track: "2KIDS"
"An even blend of authentic sounds and inspirational lyrics."
paystylerecords.net

Thurgo
Latest release: "Hmmg" (single)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "Juug n Drip" ft. Babyface Ray
"High-energy Detroit artist delivering hustler anthems rooted in ownership, resilience, and calculated growth. Known for real-world results and strategic moves both in music and business."
youtube.com/@Thurgo44

Lauri G.
Latest release: "Trophy (I'm a Woman)" (single)
Genre: R&B
Standout track: "Trophy (I'm a Woman)"
"R&B music with a classic vibe."
laurigmusic.com

Slept Through the Blood Moon
Latest release: *Slept Through the Blood Moon* (LP)
Genre: indie folk, rock
Standout track: "In the End"
"We're a DIY indie folk band with Elliott Smith-leaning melodies and lyric-first songwriting, telling small, honest stories over acoustic guitar, keys, and close vocal harmonies."
linktr.ee/sleptthroughthebloodmoon

Saltbreaker
Latest release: *Glass Aviary* (LP)
Genre: ambient
Standout track: "Holiday"
"Saltbreaker is the ambient and neo-classical project of Detroit producer John Hanson, crafting restrained, emotionally resonant soundscapes built from piano, subtle electronics, and spacious guitar textures. Rooted in stillness and atmosphere, the music feels both intimate and cinematic — inviting listeners into a slow-burning space of reflection and quiet depth."
saltbreakermusic.com

VISITOR
Latest release: "Hollywood Kid" (single)
Genre: hard rock
Standout track: "Hollywood Kid"
"I'm a VISITOR leaving all these things behind. I'm a VISITOR, searching for a sign of life."
visitorband.com

ThomasMBeats
Latest release: "Law N Order" (single)
Genre: hip-hop, rap
Standout track: "Law N Order" (GELO)
"ThomasMBeats is a Detroit producer-artist blending the city's raw energy with structured, cinematic production. With major-label placements and over 15 million streams, he represents a new class of Detroit creatives building both culture and ownership."
thomasmbeats.com

Kelsey.
Latest release: *Kelsey.* (EP)
Genre: alternative
Standout track: "Wasted"
"Disco rock, or as I like to say, if Led Zeppelin played disco. A driving rhythm section meets old school rock 'n' roll. (Debut LP coming this summer.)"
linktr.ee/kelseyperiod

Jaye Rsvd
Latest release: "From Memory" (single)
Genre: hip-hop, R&B
Standout track: "From Memory"
"Jaye Rsvd is a multifaceted hip hop artist known for blending introspective lyricism with stylistic versatility. His sound moves fluidly between alternative hip hop, ambient trap, jazz-infused production, and emotionally reflective records, making him somewhat of a chameleon across subgenres."
jayersvd.bandcamp.com

The Long Stairs
Latest release: *A Bird in the Hand* (LP)
Genre: indie rock
Standout track: "One Thing"
"The comforting and warm sounds of Detroit, a confident and imperfect sound that fills you with a gratitude for the way things are."
thelongstairs.bandcamp.com

K.O from the Pilla
Latest release: *Pilla 2* (mixtape)
Genre: rap
Standout track: "Toxic"
"I'm really here to motivate the youth and show them how to have fun with the music and how to make songs the ladies can still dance to and out on to feel good about themselves."
instagram.com/kofromthepilla

BLKBOK
Latest release: *Peaceful Piano: The Self Love Mixtape* (EP)
Genre: neo-classical
Standout track: "Self Love"
"I am a genre-defying pianist and composer who merges classical virtuosity with the soul, struggle, and soundscape of contemporary Black culture. My goal is to transform the piano into a storytelling instrument and bridge tradition and innovation."
blkbok.com

208
Latest release: *Possession* (EP)
Genre: garage
Standout track: "Tantrum"
"ear-rupturing sweat music."
thekinks.bandcamp.com

NICO
Latest release: *Body Double* (set for release May 22)
Genre: pop
Standout track: "ICON (Treat Me Like It)"
"A boy who has grown up with pop music looking up to them and wanting his dreams to come true. He has used the sounds he has heard to inspire him and create his music persona."
youtube.com/@nico._muslc

Izak
Latest release: "Cheers to Half of You" (single)
Genre: acoustic rock
Standout track: "Wild Horses"
"We are an electrifying acoustic rock trio with hints of ska, jazz, and Americana."
izakdetroit.bandcamp.com

The Versonics
Latest release: "Jump Jump Jump" (set for release April 25)
Genre: rock
Standout track: "Love Sauce"
"Describing the human condition through danceable rhythm and blues.
versonics.com

The Eastside Banda. COURTESY PHOTO

Drew Bardo
Latest release: "WICKER BOA" (single)
Genre: DIY Beatnik Garage Rock
Standout track: "WICKER BOA"
"Leonard Cohen and Mark Lanegan on a drunken boat ride through Dante's Inferno."
youtube.com/@drew_bardo

Julian Joel
Latest release: "Next 2 U" (single)
Genre: country, soul
Standout track: "Next 2 U" and "Pull Up"
"I make country/soul music that bleeds honesty. Every song I write comes from real life, real love, real mistakes, and when I step on that stage, I'm not just singing... I'm telling my story."
julianjoel.com

JonPaul Wallace & Bryan Hugo Iglesias
Latest release: *Lemon Days* (EP)
Genre: soul, pop
Standout track: "Addicted To Your Love" (with Jacob Sigman)
"We fuse modern production with a retro soul and rich, expressive vocals, creating a sound that feels timeless yet fresh."
jonpaulwallace.com

Skonie & The Klouds
Latest release: "Like a Train" (single)
Genre: funk-R&B fusion
Standout track: "Like a Train"
"New Old-School reviving the foundations of the Motor City sound."
https://qrco.de/bdIYGJ

Connor Roy
Latest release: *Made New* (EP)
Genre: contemporary Christian, pop, rock
Standout track: "Made New"
"Singer-songwriter and worship leader striving to give glory to Jesus with every song."
connorroymusic.com

C Dvpn & King Moon
Latest release: *Toxin* (LP)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "Manifest"
"rap/producer duo."

Todd Stephen
Latest release: "Highway 31" (single)
Genre: country, rock
Standout track: "Highway 31"
"A purposeful blend of my influences including classic rock, alternative, country, and trop rock."
cloudpresskit.com/cpk/todd-stephen

Vampire Cowgirl
Latest release: *BIRTHDAY SUMMER* (LP)
Genre: doompunk
Standout track: "CIRCLE OF SALT"
"Raw, chaotic basslines set to a whirlwind of percussion — riffs designed for catharsis and release."
vampirecowgirl.bandcamp.com

Avernon
Latest release: *Impact* (EP)
Genre: progressive house
Standout track: "Devotion"
"I'm 22, and I sing and produce all my music entirely myself; I write music intended for the club/DJ mixes. I would say my musical style is similar to deadmau5, Zedd, and i_o." *instagram.com/iamavernon*

Of House
Latest release: "Hymn" (single)
Genre: indie rock
Standout track: "Hymn"
"Detroit's Of House deliver 'Hymn,' a live-wire indie rock anthem that channels Springsteen's grit and Pavement's charm into a cathartic roar about persistence in the face of turmoil."
ofhouse.bandcamp.com

Sick Smile
Latest release: *Stop* (EP)
Genre: nu-grunge
Standout track: "Stubborn"
"We definitely give off '90s vibes... Woodstock '99 would have been our jam! New music dropping this spring!"
sicksmile.bandcamp.com

Closed Circuit Cassettes
Latest release: *Dymaxion Daydreams// Neutrino Nightmares* (LP)
Genre: punk, noise rock
Standout track: "Ex-Ray Specks"
"Closed Circuit Cassettes fuses angular, jerky guitar lines with blown-out digital synths and pummeling drum machines, anchored by a forceful, theatrical vocal delivery. The result is sharp-edged and high impact, tense and physical, built to rattle a room."
closedcircuitcassettes.bandcamp.com

Nametag Alexander
Latest release: *REPS* (EP)
Genre: rap
Standout track: "Funkeeshid"
"I am a songwriter whose sound fuses sharp lyricism with mature, motivational themes. My music resonates with themes of perseverance, independence, and self-mastery.
nametag.bandcamp.com

The 3148s
Latest release: "Bone Appetit" (single)
Genre: alternative
Standout track: "Bone Appetit"
"Detroit Americana thrown into a '90s alt-rock meat grinder! Big riffs, sharp wit, four chords with a smirk."
3148s.com

George Montrelle
Latest release: "Honey" (single)
Genre: rock, soul, pop
Standout track: "Honey"
"As a solo artist, I feature guitar-driven, soulful rock music, with smooth, melodic vocal performances."
instagram.com/georgemontrelle

dane dopeRock
Latest release: *Sad Bitch Slumber Party* (LP)
Genre: indie, emo, hip-hop
Standout track: "Cowboy Killer"
"An absolutely lyrical madman painting a musical tapestry of humor, wit, heartbreak, hope and hell, dane dopeRock is your favorite little emo-boi, heartbreaking, heart throb, skate rat, beach punk, rapper extraordinaire. Indie darling with a trap rap edge, scene e-thot rap for the girlys and the weird kids."
soundcloud.com/danedoperock

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CRUNE
Latest release: "69 FOREVER" (single)
Genre: dungeon pop
Standout track: "69 FOREVER"
"CRUNE is a ferocious prayer of music calling upon drum machines, theremin, synths, and shapeshifting vocals, articulating raw emotional intensity, Haunting and theatrical. CRUNE explores themes of fantasy, sexuality, gender, and magick through otherworldly personas, rooted in punk, ambient, industrial, and EBM."
crunemusic.com

JRGotTheHiTS
Latest release: *Letters From Lulu* (LP)
Genre: jazz, hip-hop
Standout track: "LULUBY"
"The best of both worlds when it comes to jazz musicianship and hip-hop production."
lettersfromlulu.com

Ryan Racine & The Little Victories
Latest release: "If You Just Need A Laugh" (set for release May 29)
Genre: Americana, roots rock
Standout track: "What's New With You"
"Lyrically driven American and folk rock."
ryanracine.com

Frontenac
Latest release: "Brushfire Brain" (single)
Genre: alternative
Standout track: "In a Moment"
"Frontenac is an electronic music and indie rock group featuring Alex Trajano and Thomas Trimble."
frontenac.bandcamp.com

Novuh Kaine
Latest release: "Oxytocin" (set for release March 28)
Genre: alternative hip-hop
Standout track: "Dirty Shirley"
"Novuh Kaine is an alt hip-hop artist who believes honesty is the best policy. Striving to use his art to show vulnerability is not just a buzz word, but an art form in itself."
linktr.ee/novuhkaine

Jill Opal
Latest release: "Be In My Bag" (single)
Genre: R&B, hip-hop
Standout track: "Do I"
"Jill Opal's background is classical music. She has a bachelor music degree in vocal performance from Eastern Michigan University. Jill Opal performs R&B, hip-hop, jazz, pop, techno, soft rock, and classical music. As a multifaceted artist known for her soulful voice and genre-bending sound, she's making waves in the music industry. Jill will be releasing new music produced by Helluva313 for her project *VIBEZ*."
jillopalmusic.com

Desmond DJ DDT Travis
Latest release: *Chillstrumentals* (LP)
Genre: hip-hop, instrumental
Standout track: "Do I"
"Desmond DJ DDT Travis can be considered a one-stop shop in music: a DJ, producer, writer, rapper, and mixing engineer. With three decades of top radio, and major label experience under his belt, he's one of Detroit's hidden gems."
instagram.com/djddt1

Dani Darling. COURTESY PHOTO

Jakubowski
Latest release: "FiddleD" (single)
Genre: Slunky Junky Funky
Standout track: "FiddleD"
"Electronic solo extravaganza."
sleekbio.com/jakubowski

Connor Fischetti
Latest release: "Don't Let Me" ft. Mya Riche (single)
Genre: pop, R&B
Standout track: "Don't Let Me" ft. Mya Riche
"Combining the tightest musicianship with the catchiest tunes to create a pop album that spans genres, generations, influences, and brings it home with a heart that wins over even the most critical music listeners!"
beacons.ai/connorfischetti

Michael Giovanni
Latest release: *Gtsg* (LP)
Genre: hip-hop, rap
Standout track: "Paper Paper," "Gtsg," "Murder Weapon (Body on Her)," "Better than U"
"Super dope, lyricist. Witty, catchy, smart, overall well rounded rapper."
instagram.com/michael_gioveezy

The Belmarks
Latest release: *Hand Me the Keys* (EP)
Genre: ska, rocksteady, reggae
Standout track: "Morning"
"Fun, danceable Jamaican-inspired music."
instagram.com/thebelmarks

Swayze
Latest release: *Party Over* (LP)
Genre: R&B, soul
Standout track: "100 Miles"
"A whole vibe, something you put on and ride to."
linktr.ee/Swayz88

Xooxoopxonoo
Latest release: "Forevereal Lullaby Diary" (single)
Genre: jitgaze
Standout track: "Forevereal Lullaby Diary"
"Melancholy, cinematic, techstep-influenced IDM."
doomcorerecords.bandcamp.com

Dani Darling
Latest release: *Cazimi* (EP)
Genre: indie soul
Standout track: "Cazimi"
"Retro vibes, and dreamy vocals with an edge.
"*instagram.com/danidarling*

Gloomco.
Latest release: *Nothing Left (To Say)* (EP)
Genre: alternative
Standout track: "Got It All Wrong"
"Gloomco. is an alt pop/rock group — their stories of heartbreak, self-discovery, and escapism blend with the sonic elements that include electronic beats, vocal chops, and slick guitar lines."
gloomco.bandcamp.com

XX.DANJOR
Latest release: *Writing on the Wall* (LP)
Genre: rap, hip-hop
Standout track: "AUDACITY"
"The music is a rich marriage of jazz trap fusion, while the subject matter covers social issues and personal testimonies. The energy is not like anything you've heard before — after experiencing it, you'll only want more."
linktr.ee/xxdanjor

Glowing Void
Latest release: *Mutating* (EP)
Genre: electronic
Standout track: "Cold World"
"Glowing Void is an electronic project blending driving rhythms, fast-moving synths and ethereal vocal textures into immersive emotionally charged tracks. Glowing Void released a debut EP with SIC Records in January which was featured on NTS Radio the week following release. Glowing Void will be performing at Moondog Cafe on April 28 as local support for touring artists Normal Bias and Madeline Goldstein."
sicrecords.bandcamp.com

The LUV Files
Latest release: "Act Rite" ft. Caleb Gutierrez (single)
Genre: organic soul
Standout track: "Act Rite"
"The LUV Files is a funk, pop production team whose core members write songs featuring themselves in addition to some of Detroit's finest singers."
theluvfiles.bandcamp.com

Jai Fears
Latest release: "Wild!" (single)
Genre: R&B, funk
Standout track: "Wild!"
"A pre-menopausal artist blending pop, R&B, and funk into a sound that feels nostalgic yet undeniably fresh. Channeling old-school groove through a futuristic lens, I create music that somehow ranges from 'Hot Tod-Teas' to 'Clock That Tea.'"
jaifears.komi.io

Tidals
Latest release: *When Silence Comes* (EP)
Genre: hard rock, metal
Standout track: "Gone Silent"
"Echoes of metal, rock, and hip-hop collide."
tidalsband.com

Headless Mary
Latest release: *Pyres* (LP)
Genre: shoegaze, grunge, alternative
Standout track: "Park Place"
"A mix of dark, brooding lyrics and infectious pop hooks, creating a blend of noise and melody."
linktr.ee/headlessmary

King SwaVay & ME8ighty
Latest release: *The Outsiders, Pt.Two* (LP)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "Creep"
"A refreshing return to hip-hop and rap music when it was diverse and had a multitude of different beats and flows unlike today's current sound in mainstream hip-hop where it sounds like one very long mundane song on infinite loop." *facebook.com/dreementertainment*

Illy Maine
Latest release: *The Parable of Solomon Grundy* (mixtape)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "Tiny Desk Clap," "Solomon Grundy"
"Inspired by love, hardship, and rebirth, Illy Maine is a visionary artist channeling his passion, vulnerability, and hope through life experiences to immersive stories for people truly seeking authentic emotional connections. Whether fun, a moment of escape, or something heartfelt... it's an experience he weaves for us to share together."
illymaine.bandcamp.com

Eliza Neals
Latest release: "Speedy Beady"
Genre: Detroit rock
Standout track: "Speedy Beady"

"Stevie Knicks meets John Lee Hooker, who serves a hard drink to Mick Jagger as Aretha Franklin from the Blues Brothers is cursing you out of the kitchen. —*Music Connection Magazine*"
linktr.ee/elizaneals

stoop lee

Latest release: *STOOP LOOPS VOL. 1* (set for release June 12)
Genre: indie, alternative rap
Standout track: "TUPAC"
"I would describe my music as warm and nostalgic while still presenting familiar sounds in a refreshing way. It feels reminiscent of eras when hip-hop and soul were more closely intertwined, drawing inspiration from the Soulquarians, Detroit hip-hop pioneers, and indie rock musicians to create something completely its own."
thastoop.com

Stevie Soul

Latest release: "Motor Mouth: How Stevie Soul Found His Rhythm" (YouTube)
Genre: beatbox, hip-hop, R&B
"Stevie Soul is a Detroit-based beatboxer, vocalist, and 2024 Kresge Arts Gilda Award recipient after overcoming a childhood stutter through the power of rhythm — a journey recently shared on the TEDxDetroit stage."
steviesoul.com

Origami Phase

Latest release: "Where To Begin" (single)
Genre: shoegaze, dreampop, post-punk
Standout track: "Where To Begin"
"A shoegaze/dreampop/post-punk band described by *CREEM* magazine as having 'hermetic attention to detail and the ambiance of a moth-eaten sweater that smells of clove cigarettes.'"
bit.ly/m/origamiphase

Local Man

Latest release: *Arrives* (LP)
Genre: garage rock
Standout track: "Hard to Kill"
"Local Man, the local band, playing local jams, for local fans. A five piece rock outfit from the Metro area assembled to melt face, posthaste."
instagram.com/localmantheband

caitlin c. harvey

Latest release: *Lighteater (The Remixes)* (EP)
Genre: experimental electronic, dance remixes
Standout track: "Lighteater (Salar Ansari Hunger Mix)"
"I am a sound artist that lives and works in Detroit. My inspirations are rooted in sound ecology, ambient, techno, and the post-industrial landscape of the city, an amalgamation of natural, relational, and place-based studies."
caitlincharvey.bandcamp.com

K.B

Latest release: *Love Lost and Found* (LP)
Genre: R&B
Standout track: "Deserve Better"
"K.B is an R&B/pop artist turning emotions into melodies and moments into anthems with a voice that's both smooth and powerful, blending nostalgic soul with modern vibes to create music that hits deep while keeping you moving. Whether she's delivering a heartfelt slow jam or an infectious, high-energy hook, KB is carving out her own lane — raw, real, and impossible to ignore."
instagram.com/all4theloveofkb

NF DOT

Latest release: *PL4YDISLOUD* (EP)
Genre: rap
Standout track: "Hold On"
"NF DOT is a recording artist from Detroit, creating experimental rap and R&B that pulls listeners into his world and makes them want to stay. Like a chameleon, NF DOT adapts effortlessly across genres, blending emotion, melody, and innovation into a sound that's constantly evolving. Unafraid to push boundaries, his music is immersive, unpredictable, and uniquely his own."
instagram.com/ohthatsdot

DJ Storm

Latest release: "From the Ashes" (set for release March 31) **Genre:** EDM
Standout track: "The Phoenix"
"Detroit-style Alesso meets Axwell & Ingrosso; I went though something tough, this is the result."
show.co/LxvmjtI

Asaka The Renegade

Latest release: "Roses" (single)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "Roses"
"Asaka The Renegade is a Detroit-born, genre-blending artist carving his own lane in today's music landscape. Known for his fearless fusion of trap, R&B, funk, dancehall, and hip-hop, Asaka delivers music that's emotionally charged yet undeniably powerful — sound rooted in survival as much as ambition."
instagram.com/asakatherenegade

Ishii Qash

Latest release: *The Last Word* (EP)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "Queenpen" ft. Ari B
"Hailing from Detroit, Michigan, Ishii Qash (born Marquita Simpson) is a dynamic rapper, songwriter, model, and social media influencer whose confident delivery and sharp lyricism set her apart in today's hip-hop scene. A proud graduate of Michigan State University with a B.A. in Criminal Justice and a Master's in digital audience strategy from Arizona State University, Ishii merges intellect and artistry, running her brand with business savvy and vision."
instagram.com/ishiiqash

Sam Watson

Latest release: *Welcome to Wayside* (single)
Genre: R&B
Standout track: "Wayside Rd"
"Hailing from the Motown area, Sam Watson is far from your ordinary music entertainer. For over a decade, he has crafted a high-quality sound that is undeniable, combining his skill as a singer, songwriter, producer, and multi-instrumentalist — playing more than ten instruments, including his most powerful one: his voice. His artistry defies categories, moving seamlessly through R&B, pop, and hip-hop, delivering music that both uplifts and gets audiences moving."
instagram.com/samwatson_official

Ari B

Latest release: "LongWay " (single)
Genre: R&B
Standout track: "Long Way"
"Ari B, a rising R&B artist from Detroit, is quickly making a name for herself with her soulful voice, heartfelt lyrics, and powerful stage presence. Deeply inspired by Motown's legacy and icons like Brandy, Aaliyah, and Beyoncé, she blends timeless R&B storytelling with a fresh, modern edge."
instagram.com/officialari.b

Mark Flash

Latest release: *Detroit Techno Funk Association Presents Hors D'oeuvres Vol.4* (EP)
Genre: Detroit techno
Standout track: "LOTTA TIMBALADA"
"A versatile Detroit based producer and DJ. As a member of Underground Resistance, Mark Flash is known for fusing techno, funk and live instrumentation into live high energy performances."
markflashmusic.com

Deeper Waters

Latest release: *Artifice* (EP)
Genre: electronic
Standout track: "Zombie"
"Deeper Waters is a Detroit-based husband-and-wife electronic duo creating soulful soundscapes rooted in the city's underground legacy. Their music blends deep groove with emotional warmth to create intimate yet powerful experiences that celebrate connection, partnership, and the healing power of the dance floor."
deeperwatersdetroit.com

DUANE

Latest release: "Up D Scoe" (single)
Genre: ghettotech
Standout track: "Up D Scoe"
"Black, queer, and authentically Detroit ghettotech through a pop and performance art lens."
linktr.ee/DUANEDETROITARTIST

LoudFoxCult

Latest release: *I'm Going to Heal, After You* (LP)
Genre: indie punk, emo-adjacent
Standout track: "Riverbends"
"Energetic emo three piece that prioritizes catchy hooks and exciting sequences."
distrokid.com/hyperfollow/loudfoxcult

pia the band

Latest release: *Getting Better* (EP)
Genre: indie rock
Standout track: "I Have Everything"
"pia the band crafts raw, lyric-driven indie rock, where soft vocals meet layers of light distortion and hazy textures."
linktr.ee/piatheband

bodyguards.

Latest release: *The First Day of Forever* (LP)
Genre: post-hardcore
Standout track: "Nighthawks @ The Diner"
"The closest term that could ever be used to describe our band is 'power trio.' We're three guys who want to be as loud as possible in a world where you're told to be quiet."
bodygaurds.bandcamp.com

Ant P

Latest release: *Schoolcraft 2* (EP)
Genre: rap, hip-hop
Standout track: "Everything" ft. Oba Rowland
"Lifestyle rap from the Westside of Detroit."
spotify.com

G-Note

Latest release: "Eulogy" ft. Lil Wayne (single)
Genre: rap
Standout track: "Eulogy"
"Gritty with a Detroit Strong mindset."
hogheadgnote.com

Adam Liles

Latest release: *Slow Pony* (EP)
Genre: alternative
Standout track: "Belly of the Beast"
"This band is the solo work of Adam Liles. These five songs are a combination of alternative rock and a bit more acoustic-based folk rock songs/singer-songwriter."
*instagram.com/adamliles_*

billy winters

Latest release: *BACK TO RAPPING* (instrumentals)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "LUV AT DAWN" ft. SAVAGESPITFLAMEZ
"the billy winters sound is SMOOTH, SOULFUL and KNOCKIN'."
billywintersaudiovisual.com

Low Exposure

Latest release: *What Develops* (set for release May 1)
Genre: post-punk
Standout track: "Tall Exit Waiting"
"We've been around."
lowexposure.bandcamp.com

Cattywampus

Latest release: *Cattywampus* (set for release April 1)
Genre: experimental rock
Standout track: "Parasite and Host"
"Avant-rock curiosities with hints of abstract auditory fragments. We play rock and roll."
instagram.com/cattywampus_ypsi

Louie Lee. COURTESY PHOTO

2025 METRO TIMES Best of DETROIT

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Gusher
Latest release: *Another One In Me* (LP)
Genre: noise punk
Standout track: "Jayne and Sheremy"
"Chewy on the outside, gooey on the inside : disco doom died on the make-out ride. Pop sugar sludge leakin' from the dance music chub."
spotify.com

Christopher Apollo
Latest release: *MK ULTRA: CYBER BLUE* (EP)
Genre: pop, R&B
Standout track: "BLESSED_BOY," "OXYGEN"
"Futuristic Black Pop Music made the perspective of a possessed Robot. Past meets future."
linktr.ee/apolito

Mallia
Latest release: "Dreams" (single)
Genre: electronic
Standout track: "Dreams"
"Dark, cinematic pop."
spotify.com

Michael La Bella
Latest release: *Canteen* (EP)
Genre: indie rock
Standout track: "Canteen"
"Easy listening, catchy tunes with an indie rock aesthetic and Beach Boys harmonies."

Kile
Latest release: *The World Needs Saving, So Do I* (LP)
Genre: hip-hop, rap
Standout track: "When In Rome"
"Genre-bending and decade-defining artists."
rarehearted.com

RAREHEARTED
Latest release: *Full Circle* (EP)
Genre: hip-hop, rap
Standout track: "Selfish," "M.I.A."
"A group of artists that can define a decade, all of them have touched multiple genres. Nothing is stopping them from reaching the top."
rarehearted.com

Kovax
Latest release: "MK Ultra" (single)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "BLAKLISTER/BLOOD SACRIFICE"
"Detroit Emcee, with recent praise from the *Kid L Podcast*, having the only Disney-level animated music video in the Detroit scene, and a recent performance at ICP'S JCW Lunacy. See Kovax live at Trixie's in Hamtramck on April 18."
instagram.com/kovax.detroit

Funderbird
Latest release: *Let It Kill You* (LP)
Genre: punk rock
Standout track: "Buddhist Mary"
"When three Gen Xers, brought up on punk rock and skateboarding get together in their 50s to make music... you get FUNDERBIRD."
funderbirdband.com

Bang
Latest release: "My Heaven (reimagined)" (single)
Genre: indie
Standout track: "My Heaven (reimagined)"
"Blending real world emotions with cinematic soundscapes."
instagram.com/bangxxix

Past Dog Beach
Latest release: *Fallen* (EP)
Genre: post-punk, psychedelic, bohemian gothic
Standout track: "Kill Another Day"
"A hypnotic sound both ominous and uplifting, shrouded within the moments between dusk and dawn."
pastdogbeach.com

Lo Sport
Latest release: *LOVELO* (EP)
Genre: hip-hop, rap
Standout track: "Birthday Suit"
"Storyteller who speaks from a place of honesty and reflection."
losport.bandcamp.com

caleb heart eyes
Latest release: "We Got This" (single)
Genre: folk
Standout track: "We Got This"
"Modern folk music, inspired by the Great Lakes."
calebhearteyes.com

Mark Cooper
Latest release: *The Orange Tape* (LP)
Genre: nerdcore, hip-hop
Standout track: "Stoop Kid"
"A nerdy musician with a Nintendo power glove that takes you on a journey with music back to your childhood memories."
reign.bandcamp.com

Axl Urameshi
Latest release: *Time To Digest* (EP)
Genre: hip-hop, rap
Standout track: "Cloud 10"
"Hyperactive hip-hop."
instagram.com/axlurameshi

Eden Bloom
Latest release: *Without a Book | V 1.0* (EP)
Genre: experimental folk
Standout track: "Vision"
"Eden Bloom is a Detroit multi-disciplinary artist making home-recorded experimental folk that weaves personal healing with political urgency — raw, one-take songs dedicated to those who've done wrong but found their way back to the fight for what's right."
edenbloom.bandcamp.com

92euce
Latest release: *XCpletIIves ver. 3.0* (LP)
Genre: hip-hop, rap
Standout track: "Cereal"
"Using pseudomisanthropy and video games to cope."
92euce.bandcamp.com

Dango Forlaine & Christopher Jose

Latest release: *Fly Lordz: Crash The Party* (LP)
Genre: God-hop
Standout track: "PNC" ft. Rahs God
"Two of the illest and flyest to ever do it."
instagram.com/dango_forlaine313

Only Okay
Latest release: *27* (LP)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "Karma" ft. Mikki
"Socially conscious, relatable music for whatever mood you may be in."
linktr.ee/onlyokaymusic

Sonic Smut
Latest release: *Eye Bleach* (LP)
Genre: freaky psychedelic garage
Standout track: "Freakquency," "Death by Nostalgia"
"Imagine the love child of the Mothers of Invention and Funkadelic, and you are getting close to the wild and wonderful sounds of Sonic Smut. Oozing with psych grooves, the hypnotic drums, luscious keys, and mesospheric guitars sear the soul like a solar flare. Your mind scrambles for a handhold as the music slams into your psyche like a tidal wave. **—Chuck Marshall"**
sonicsmutdetroit.bandcamp.com

Garbage World/Jay Hemlock
Latest release: *Dealer's Choice* (EP)
Genre: nu-metal, hip-hop-adjacent
Standout track: "Moving Teeth"
"Detroit heavy groove with incredible storytelling and an underlying message to love your neighbor."
garbageworld.net

Ree8006
Latest release: "Candle Flame" (single)
Genre: house, dance
Standout track: "Candle Flame"
"I create to make you feel, I pull from R&B, hip-hop, pop, house, and electronic. I make music that's smooth enough to vibe to alone, but uplifting enough to carry you through anything."
beacons.ai/ree8006

Julianne Ankley
Latest release: "Polar Train" (single)
Genre: Americana
Standout track: "Polar Train"
"Julianne Ankley's soulful Americana, blue country, roots style hails from a small Michigan border town close to the shore of Lake Huron and within earshot of the musical influences of Detroit."
julianneankley.com

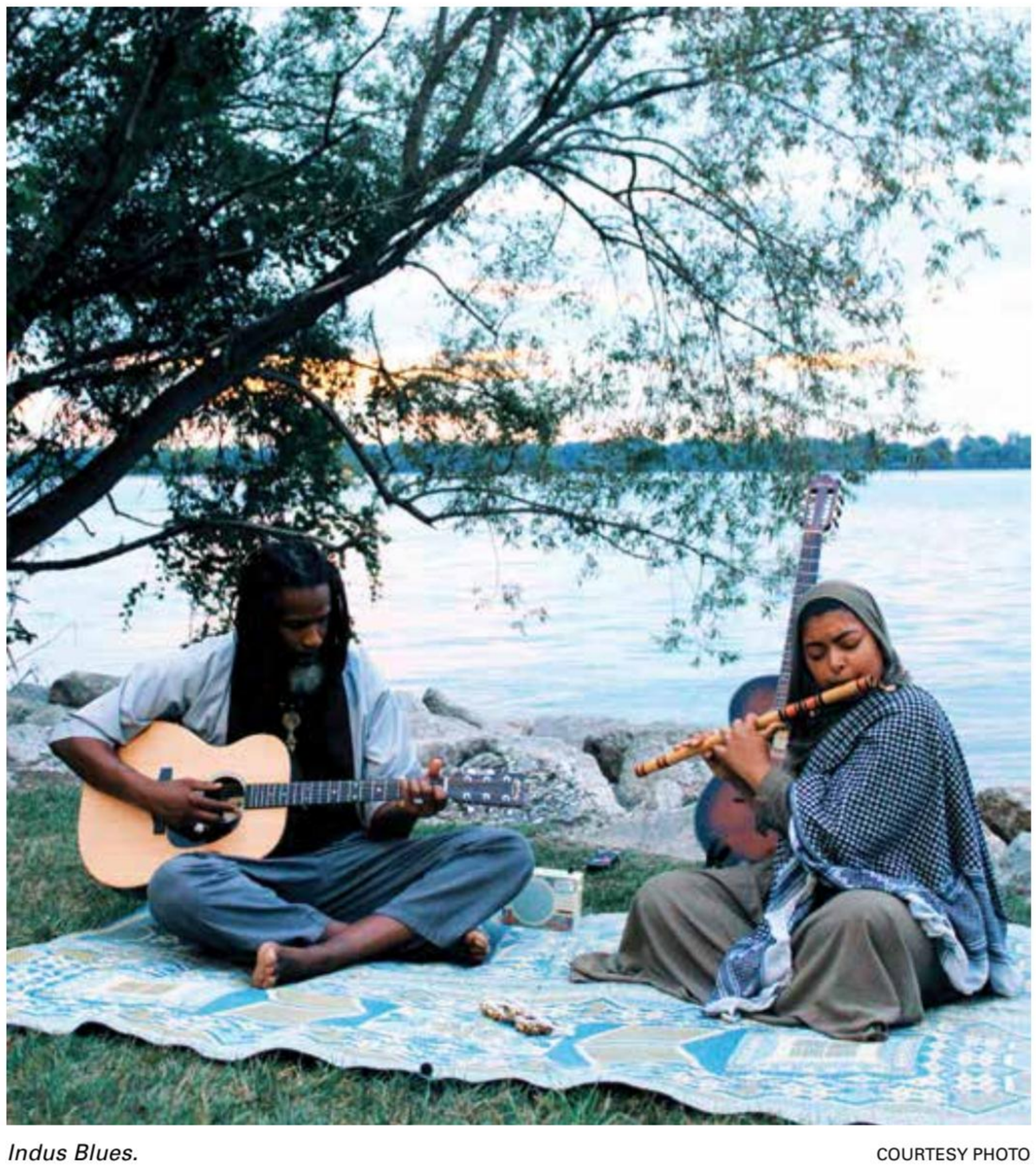
Niko Noir
Latest release: *Who Can Blame Niko?* (LP)
Genre: R&B, soul
Standout track: "Can't Blame Me"
"An R&B/Soul singer whose music bridges soulful intimacy with modern storytelling. Upholding a velvet tone and emotional clarity."
instagram.com/niko.noir

Cult Therapy
Latest release: *Get Fucked, Sinner!* (LP)
Genre: alternative rock, punk
Standout track: "Therapy & Drugs"
"Cathartic alt-rock from a cult survivor. For fans of Weezer, Drug Church, Microwave."
culttherapymusic.bandcamp.com

SIAS
Latest release: "SUGAR RUSH" (single)
Genre: electronic, pop
Standout track: "SUGAR RUSH"
SIAS is a Detroit-based indie electronic duo blending cinematic pop, expressive live instrumentation, and forward-thinking sound design. Their music pairs emotional songwriting with immersive production and custom-built instruments, creating a sound that is both intimate and expansive.
siasmusic.com

Stimpack
Latest release: *Rumors* (LP)
Genre: electronic
Standout track: "Trifilin" ft. LucyV
"I make fun, bouncy, vibey, electronic music drawing inspiration from hip-hop, dubstep, drum and bass, trap, and more."
soundcloud.com/stimpacksound

Audrey Ray
Latest release: *Cigarettes and Ashes* (LP)
Genre: country
Standout track: "Cigarettes & Ashes," "Whiskey Train"
"Original country music, Motown soul meets Nashville sound."
audreyraymusic.com



Indus Blues. COURTESY PHOTO

Quinlan Mauer

Latest release: *Goin to the Beach* (EP)
Genre: psychedelic rock, jam band
Standout track: "Ehx Funk (Angie's Place)," "Goin to the Beach"
"Psychedelic, polyrhythmic jams with heartfelt lyrics that spread a message of love and joy. Thunderous percussion, soaring guitars, sweet and spicy vocals bring well-crafted songs to life."
quinlanmauer.com

Strand

Latest release: *You Have Been Warned* (EP)
Genre: techno
Standout track: "Astral Plainsman"
"Soulful, funky, organic techno."
strand313.bandcamp.com

cheqüe

Latest release: *blüprint* (EP)
Genre: house
Standout track: "to chicago"
"cheqüe is a Detroit-based producer and DJ crafting groove-forward house shaped by influences from hip-hop, UK club music, and West Coast day-club energy. His sound lives somewhere between late-night dance floors and sunlit party sets, driven by rhythm, feel, and movement."
instagram.com/cheque.plzzz

Team Cabin

Latest release: *Kyle California* (set for release March 27)
Genre: pop punk
Standout track: "Monstro (Jaws of a Whale)"
"Team Cabin is a Michigan pop punk band built on bad decisions, hockey injuries, and the creeping dread of becoming your boss. They sound like the drive home from a show at The Shelter at 1 a.m."
instagram.com/teamcabin

Sinne

Latest release: *Work In Progress* (set for release March 29)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "Work in Progress" and "Application"
"I rap, I sing, I do my thing. My music pulls from emotion more than situations, creating life music that feels familiar."
linktr.ee/sinnennis

A False Apostle

Latest release: *Transmission* (EP)
Genre: IDM
Standout track: "Isolated Current"
"As an independent solo artist, I create layered and melodic music that is evocative of a living soundtrack that feels familiar, but is just out of reach. Everything seemingly independent, yet pervasive themes connect and intertwine each composition."
afalseapostle.com

DOC3131

Latest release: *After Hours* (set for release March 27)
Genre: hip-hop
Standout track: "It's A Lot"
"DOC3131 is a passionate hip-hop artist who melds boom bap sound with new era beats. No. 1 motto: 'It ain't perfect but we working.'"
instagram.com/doc3131_tunes

Scoops Lively

Latest release: *THE ILLEGAL MIXTAPE* (set for July 4)

Rose St. Germaine. COURTESY PHOTO

Genre: jungle, electronic, plunderpunk
Standout track: "pup eraser!"
"EXTREME LEFT LEANING ELECTRONIC PUNK. ILLEGAL ANTI GOVERNMENT MUSIC."
soundcloud.com/scoops-lively

Indus Blues

Latest release: *Ancestral Musing 1* (EP)
Genre: world fusion, hindustani classical blues fusion
Standout track: "Liqa'"
"Indus Blues is Tazeen and LuFuki's latest music project exploring and fusing motifs and melodies from Hindustani classical music and the blues, drawing inspiration from the flowing movement of the Indus and Detroit Rivers, bodies of water that represent connection and the journey to freedom. Tazeen and LuFuki are a dynamic musical duo from Detroit that believes music is a sacred art form that can be used for storytelling, healing, solidarity, freedom, and social action."
tazeenayub.org

LuFuki Meditations

Latest release: *Dare to Believe* (EP)
Genre: creative improvised, avant-garde
Standout track: "Dare to Believe"
"LuFuki Meditations is put together with the intention of encouraging audience contemplation through sound using the powerful messages of improvisation. LuFuki gathers some of the best improvisers in the Midwest to produce sounds, vibrations, and frequencies that are unique to each member's personal and communal experiences."
innerhorizons.bandcamp.com

New Entertainment

Latest release: *Channel 1* (EP)
Genre: indie, punk
Standout track: "Zero Stereo"
"Catchy, energetic, left field, entertaining."
linktr.ee/theboomingtoyindustry

Matthew Smith Group

Latest release: *Matthew Smith Group* (LP)
Genre: Rock
Standout track: "Others"
"A rock 'n' roll band with early '70s AM radio pop aesthetics, vocal harmonies, and guitar solos that also embraces free jazz sensibilities and avant-garde electronics to create a unique sonic atmosphere."
matthewsmithgroup.bandcamp.com

Joe Reilly and The Community Gardeners

Latest release: *Learn to Love Again* (LP)
Genre: folk
Standout track: "Liminal Space"
"Spiritual folk music that helps strengthen and build diverse intergenerational communities. Healing songs that cultivate peace in the collective consciousness."
joereilly.org

Blaktony

Latest release: *Codewise* (EP)
Genre: house, deep house, soulful cosmic house
Standout track: "Alternative Homework"
"The third outing featuring this artist in a trilogy of various artists EPs from legendary Detroit label Soiree Records International. Deep, soulful chords set amongst jazzy cosmic dancefloor groove, crafted by one of electronic music's most enigmatic figures."
linktr.ee/blaktony

Bryce The Third

Latest release: *Who Cares If You See* (LP)
Genre: hip-hop, alternative
Standout track: "Catharsis"
"When it comes to songwriting, you can immediately sense that Bryce The Third respects the craft. Deploying impeccable lyricism to display hard earned, sage personal truths, sometimes with dark and unresolved twists and turns oozes the fact that he was inspired by fellow Detroit alum Eminem as well as André 3000, Lauryn Hill, and other greats. Other times you may find Bryce blending melodies for radio-ready tunes in a way only an astute student of Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, and Earth, Wind & Firee could. Sometimes he does both on the same track because... you know, screw your expectations."
brycethethird.com

Rose St. Germaine

Latest release: *AAA Love* (set for release March 27)
Genre: rock, alternative
Standout track: "Wicked Man by the Sea"
"Rose St. Germaine are psychedelic garage rockers. RSG's latest release, *AAA Love*, is a nautical homage to the secret of life and death: Love, love, love."
rosestgermaine.bandcamp.com

Jamiel Dado

Latest release: "Both Eyes In Front Of Me" (single)
Genre: indie folk
Standout track: "Both Eyes In Front Of Me"
"With cryptic lyrics that are deeply personal, Jamiel fashions slow haunting melodies accompanied by lo-fi instrumentation, performed entirely by himself."
instagram.com/jamieldado

Birds From Dinosaurs

Latest release: "Oh No!" (single)
Genre: shoegaze
Standout track: "Oh No!"
"Crafting songs inspired by '60s psychedelia filtered through the prism of '90s indie guitar rock, Birds From Dinosaurs are made up of four long playing musicians from Southeast Michigan."
instagram.com/birdsfromdinosaurs

Scootie McB

Latest release: *McBANGER* (compilation)
Genre: rap, hip-hop
Standout track: "Go In McBANGER," "My Dawgs"
"A compilation curated with style, sprinkled with a one of a kind sound. Another product of Detroit's music history."
mcbanger.bandcamp.com

Tears of a Martian

Latest release: *light II dark* (set for release May 1)
Genre: indie rock, pop, R&B, soul
Standout track: "spotless mind"
"A group centered around a singer songwriter that grew up listening to R&B, Motown, and pop and later fell in love with indie and garage rock. This led her to find amazing Detroit musicians that both grew up playing in churches and share her genre bending tendencies."
tearsofamartian.com

Jazatopia

Latest release: *Just Vibes* (LP)
Genre: R&B, dance
Standout track: "VIP"
"My music blends smooth R&B melodies with bright pop energy, creating songs that feel both emotional and uplifting. My sound often paints vivid memories of late-night moments, love, and self-expression, wrapped in modern, radio-ready production."
jazatopia.com MT

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WHAT'S GOING ON

LISTINGS

Select events happening in metro Detroit this week. Be sure to check venue websites before all events for the latest information. Add your event to our online calendar: metrotimes.com/AddEvent.

MUSIC

Wednesday Mar 18

Live/Concert

BJ Barham of American Aquarium 7 pm; Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St., Hamtramck;

Cubist Agenda 8 pm-midnight; First Place Lounge, 16921 Harper Ave, Detroit; No Cover.

EVERCLEAR wsg Sponge 7 pm; District 142, 142 Maple St., Wyandotte;

The Function with DJ Dez Andres 9 pm-2 am; Northern Lights Lounge, 660 W. Baltimore St., Detroit; no cover.

Maddox Batson 6:30 pm; Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak;

Magic Bag Presents: Tophouse 7 pm; Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

The Summer Set 6 & 7 pm; Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress St., Detroit;

Cubist Agenda 8 pm-midnight; First Place Lounge, 16921 Harper Ave, Detroit; No Cover.

The Function with DJ Dez Andres 9 pm-2 am; Northern Lights Lounge, 660 W. Baltimore St., Detroit; no cover.

DJ/Dance

Low End Theory 10 pm-2 am; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Nightcap Detroit 10 pm-2 am; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Planet Funk 7-10 pm; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Thievery Corporation 7 pm; Garden Bowl, 4120 Woodward, Detroit;

Way Back Wednesdays w. DJ Righteous 8 am-11:59 pm; New Dodge Lounge, 8850 Joseph Campau Ave., Hamtramck; 5.

Hump Day Karaoke & Music Trivia 8 pm-1 am; Pronto! Royal Oak, 608 S. Washington, Royal Oak; No Cover.

Thursday Mar 19

Live/Concert

Alkyone - Live In Concert! 5:30-8:30 pm; Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA), 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit; Free.

Alkyone in Concert 7 pm; Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA), 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit; Free Admission.

Celebrating Women in Jazz at Cliff Bell's Featuring Pamela Wise and Sky Covington 7:30-8:30 & 9:30-11 pm; Aretha's Jazz Cafe, 350 Madison St., Detroit; $25.

Dueling Pianos: An Interactive Entertainment Experience 8 pm-midnight; AXIS Lounge, 1777 3rd St., Detroit;

Evan Honer 7 pm; Majestic Theatre, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit;

Evan Horner - It's A Long Road Tour 7 pm; Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit;

Pianist Pamela Wise Celebrates Women In Jazz 7:30-11 pm; Cliff Bell's, 2030 Park Ave., Detroit; $25 each.

Redder Moon wsg Entries and Ingo Swann 7 pm; Small's, 10339 Conant St., Hamtramck;

Dueling Pianos: An Interactive Entertainment Experience 8 pm-midnight; AXIS Lounge, 1777 3rd St., Detroit

DJ/Dance

Blair + Phil 10 pm-2 am; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Curated Cool 7-10 pm; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Drag Queen Karaoke 8 pm-2 am; Woodward Avenue Brewers, 22646 Woodward Ave., Ferndale; no cover.

Elixer: DJs John Ryan and GEO 8 pm-midnight; Northern Lights Lounge, 660 W. Baltimore St., Detroit; No cover.

Friday Mar 20

Live/Concert

Ben Quad, Riley!, Aren't We Amphibians, Footballhead 6 pm; Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St., Hamtramck;

Burning Witches 7:30 pm; The Token Lounge, 28949 Joy Rd., Westland;

Chris Collins & Boulder Canyon – John Denver Musical Experience 8 pm; Emerald Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens;

Friday Night Jam — Live Music at The Wildermere Featuring The Jerome Clark Trio 8-midnight; The Wildemere Bar & Grill, 3143 W. Mnichols, Detroit, MI; Free.

Linda May Han Oh 7-10 pm; The Blue LLama Jazz Club, 314 S. Main St., Ann Arbor; $95 or $50.

Magic Bag Presents: MEGA 80s 7 pm; Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

Mark Farner's American Band 8-9:30 pm; FIM Capitol Theatre, 140 E 2nd Street, Flint; Tickets start at $46 / $33 for Genesee County residents.

Moonchild 7 pm; Cathedral Theatre at the Masonic Temple, 500 Temple St., Detroit;

Pontiac Youth Theatre Presents Singin' in the Rain JR. 7 pm; Flagstar Strand Theatre for the Performing Arts, 12 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac;

Saddle Up: Welcome to Spring! 8 pm; Diamondback Music Hall, 49345 S. Interstate 94 Service Dr., Belleville;

Sky Covington's Preservation of Jazz Special Women's History Month A Tribute to Sade ft. Kimmie Horne at The Aretha's Jazz Cafe 8-11 pm; Aretha's Jazz Cafe, 350 Madison St., Detroit; 40.00.

The Dollyrots with special guests Keep Flying and TBA 7 pm; Small's, 10339 Conant St., Hamtramck;

The Muggs, Smooth, Cats In Heat, Maggie McCabe 7:30 pm; The Loving Touch, 22634 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

Uncle Kracker 8 pm; Andiamo Celebrity Showroom, 7096 E. 14 Mile Rd., Warren;

Pontiac Youth Theatre Presents Singin' in the Rain JR. 2 & 7 pm; Flagstar Strand Theatre for the Performing Arts, 12 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac;

Friday Night Jam — Live Music at The Wildermere Featuring The Jerome Clark Trio 8-midnight; The Wildemere Bar & Grill, 3143 W. Mnichols, Detroit, MI; Free.

DJ/Dance

Craig Brown Band w/ Loose Koozies + DJ Soul-Lo 9 pm; Bowlero Lanes & Lounge, 4209 Coolidge Hwy., Royal Oak; 0.

Lesbian Night Hosted by DJ Nouveau third Friday of every month, noon-2 am; Pronto! Royal Oak, 608 S. Washington, Royal Oak; NO COVER.

Money Mouse Rave: Mousecapade Detroit Edition 8 pm-2 am; Paris Bar, 2691 E McNichols rd, Detroit, MI; 10 Advance, 15 At Door.

Open Air Fridays 4-10 pm; Woodbridge Pub, 5169 Trumbull St., Detroit; 0.

Saturday Mar 21

Live/Concert

Pontiac Youth Theatre Presents Singin' in the Rain JR. 7 pm; Flagstar Strand Theatre for the Performing Arts, 12 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac;

The Billy Davis Rhythm Machine Band wsg Mighty Michael + DJ Tangent 9 pm; Bowlero Lanes & Lounge, 4209 Coolidge Hwy., Royal Oak; 0.

A CABARET TRIBUTE TO TAYLOR SWIFT A LOVE LETTER TO EVERY ERA! 7:30-9:30 pm; Boardwalk Theatre, 109 S 3rd St, St. Clair; $30.

Detroit Rock City - Tribute to Kiss 8 pm; The Token Lounge, 28949 Joy Rd., Westland;

Good Trouble: an evening of folk songs, woke songs, likely-to-provoke songs featuring All About Eve with special guest Chris Buhalis 7:30 pm; MAMA's Coffeehouse at the Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills; 18-20.

Josiah Siska 7 pm-2 am; Diamondback Music Hall, 49345 S. Interstate 94 Service Dr., Belleville; $15.00.

Josiah Siska 7:45 pm; Diamondback Music Hall, 49345 S. Interstate 94 Service Dr., Belleville;

Magic Bag Presents: Peace Frog 7 pm; Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

Pontiac Youth Theatre Presents Singin' in the Rain JR. 2 & 7 pm; Flagstar Strand Theatre for the Performing Arts, 12 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac;

Sons of Legion 7 pm; The Loving Touch, 22634 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

Still Rock'n Roll – The Music of Billy Joel 8 pm; Emerald Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens;

The 18th Annual Motor City Blues Festival 7 pm; Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit;

THE FAMILY VALUES - Nu Metal Tribute 7 pm; District 142, 142 Maple St., Wyandotte;

The Hit Men 8 pm; Andiamo Celebrity Showroom, 7096 E. 14 Mile Rd., Warren;

The Strumbellas - Into Dust Tour 7 pm; Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress St., Detroit;

Two Piece, Recount, Pure Bliss, World Of Malice, Infectious Waste, Concrete Teeth 6 pm; Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St., Hamtramck;

DJ/Dance

ISSA PARTY 9 pm-3 am; Spot Lite, 2905 Beaufait St., Detroit; $15/20/25.

Saturday Grind 11 am-3 pm; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Saturday Grind 11 am-3 pm; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Sunday Mar 22

Live/Concert

17&18: Outta Wack Album Release Party 7-10 pm; Miss Eva's Detroit, 19566 Grand River Ave., Detroit; $10 presale, $15 at door.

Crazy and the Brains, Hans Gruber and the Die Hards 6 pm; Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St., Hamtramck;

Fort Street Church & Artistic Director Michael Malis Present: Jazz Concert Series 2-3 pm; Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort St., Detroit; Suggested donation of $20/person.

Lamb of God 7 pm; Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit;

Two Feet: The Next Steps Tour 7 pm; Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress St., Detroit;

DJ/Dance

SPKR BRNCH 11 am-3 pm; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Sunday Service Karaoke Hosted by Sister DJ Larry 8 pm-1 am; Pronto! Royal Oak, 608 S. Washington, Royal Oak; No Cover.

Sunday Service Karaoke | DJ Larry noon-1 am; Pronto! Royal Oak, 608 S. Washington, Royal Oak; No Cover.

Monday Mar 23

Live/Concert

Sky Covington's Preservation of Jazz Monday Night Music Series Tributes presents The Charlie Parker & Cannonball Adderley Tribute 7:30-10 pm; Aretha's Jazz Cafe, 350 Madison St., Detroit; $35.

Sky Covington's Preservation of

Jazz Monday Night Music Series, Tributes 7:30-10 pm; Aretha's Jazz Cafe, 350 Madison St., Detroit; $35-$40.

The Burkharts , Danny Ayala 7 pm; Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St., Hamtramck;

Tribute to Two Saxophone Giants — Charlie Parker & Cannonball Adderly (Sky Covngton's Preservation of Jazz Monday Night Music Series, "Tributes") 7:30-10 pm; Aretha's Jazz Cafe, 350 Madison St., Detroit; $35.

Tribute to Two Saxophone Giants — Charlie Parker & Cannonball Adderly (Sky Covngton's Preservation of Jazz Monday Night Music Series, "Tributes") 7:30-10 pm; Aretha's Jazz Cafe, 350 Madison St., Detroit; $35.

DJ/Dance

Adult Skate Night 8:30-11 pm; Lexus Velodrome, 601 Mack Ave., Detroit; $5.

Tuesday Mar 24

Live/Concert

John Nemeth 7:30 pm; The Token Lounge, 28949 Joy Rd., Westland;

Sean Blackman's In Transit 7-10 pm; Northern Lights Lounge, 660 W. Baltimore St., Detroit; no cover.

Testament - Thrash of The Titans 6 pm; Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress St., Detroit;

The Hives 7 pm; The Fillmore, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit;

Sean Blackman's In Transit 7-10 pm; Northern Lights Lounge, 660 W. Baltimore St., Detroit; no cover.

Open Mic : Art in a Fly Space 7-10 pm; Detroit Shipping Company, 474 Peterboro St., Detroit; no cover.

VIP Tuesday Night Karaoke 9 pm-1 am; Pronto! Royal Oak, 608 S. Washington, Royal Oak; No Cover.

Wednesday Mar 25

Live/Concert

Cubist Agenda 8 pm-midnight; First Place Lounge, 16921 Harper Ave, Detroit; No Cover.

The Function with DJ Dez Andres 9 pm-2 am; Northern Lights Lounge, 660 W. Baltimore St., Detroit; no cover.

Cubist Agenda 8 pm-midnight; First Place Lounge, 16921 Harper Ave, Detroit; No Cover.

The Function with DJ Dez Andres 9 pm-2 am; Northern Lights Lounge, 660 W. Baltimore St., Detroit; no cover.

One Night of Queen performed by Gary Mullen & The Works 8-10:30 pm; FIM Whiting Auditorium, 1241 E. Kearsley Street, Flint; $29.90/$22.60 for Genesee County residents.

Soulville - Respect to the Queen Aretha Franklin 8 pm; Sound Board, 2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit

DJ/Dance

Planet Funk 7-10 pm; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Way Back Wednesdays w. DJ Righteous 8 am-11:59 pm; New Dodge Lounge, 8850 Joseph Campau Ave., Hamtramck; 5.

Karaoke/Open Mic

Hump Day Karaoke & Music Trivia 8 pm-1 am; Pronto! Royal Oak, 608 S. Washington, Royal Oak; No Cover.

Thursday Mar 26

Live/Concert

Dueling Pianos: An Interactive Entertainment Experience 8 pm-midnight; AXIS Lounge, 1777 3rd St., Detroit;

Coyote Island LIVE 8-11:30 pm; Lager House, 1254 Michigan Ave., Detroit; 21.80.

DOG PARTY (Sacramento) w/ The Randy Bastards 9 pm; Bowlero Lanes & Lounge, 4209 Coolidge Hwy., Royal Oak; 0.

Dueling Pianos: An Interactive Entertainment Experience 8 pm-midnight; AXIS Lounge, 1777 3rd St., Detroit;

Let It Rot 7 pm; Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St., Hamtramck;

Melissa Etheridge Rise 8 pm; The Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit;

SPARROW BLUE / TRIBE 989 / AQUA MONKEY 7:30 pm; The Token Lounge, 28949 Joy Rd., Westland;

DJ/Dance

Curated Cool 7-10 pm; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Open Mic

Drag Queen Karaoke 8 pm-2 am; Woodward Avenue Brewers, 22646 Woodward Ave., Ferndale; no cover.

Elixer: DJs John Ryan and GEO 8 pm-midnight; Northern Lights Lounge, 660 W. Baltimore St., Detroit; No cover.

Friday Mar 27

Live/Concert

Friday Night Jam — Live Music at The Wildermere Featuring The Jerome Clark Trio 8-midnight; The Wildemere Bar & Grill, 3143 W. Mnichols, Detroit, MI; Free.

Collective Soul Ticket + Hotel Deals 8 pm; Caesars Palace Windsor - Augustus Ballroom, 377 E. Riverside Dr., Windsor;

Collective Soul With Special Guest The Blue Stones 8 pm; Caesars Palace Windsor - Augustus Ballroom, 377 E. Riverside Dr., Windsor;

Currents & ERRA: The Silence Follows Tour 2026 5:30 pm; Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress St., Detroit;

Engelbert Humperdinck 8 pm; Andiamo Celebrity Showroom, 7096 E. 14 Mile Rd., Warren;

Friday Night Jam — Live Music at The Wildermere Featuring The Jerome Clark Trio 8-midnight; The Wildemere Bar & Grill, 3143 W. Mnichols, Detroit, MI; Free.

The Imaginatron, Yeddie, Seizure Pleaser @ Reware Vintage, Mar 27, 7PM ALL AGES 7-10 pm; Reware Vintage, 2965 12 Mile Road, Suite 200, Berkley; $10.

Jivebomb 6 pm; Tenacity Craft, 8517 2nd Ave, Detroit;

Magic Bag Presents: Quinn XCII: From Michigan With Love 8 pm; Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

The Mo'tet Ensemble 6:30-9:30 pm; Chicane, 885 Starkweather, Plymouth; no charge.

Neon Nashville Nights! 8 pm; Diamondback Music Hall, 49345 S. Interstate 94 Service Dr., Belleville;

TEXAS HIPPIE COALITION 7 pm; District 142, 142 Maple St., Wyandotte;

Wolves At The Gate, Heal The Hurt 6 pm; Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St., Hamtramck;

The Mo'tet Ensemble 6:30-9:30 pm; Chicane, 885 Starkweather, Plymouth; no charge.

Magic Bag Presents: Quinn XCII: From Michigan With Love 7 pm; Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

DJ/Dance

Ladies Night with DJ Lambchop wsg ameera March 27, 8 pm-midnight; Miss Eva's Detroit, 19566 Grand River Ave., Detroit;

Open Air Fridays 4-10 pm; Woodbridge Pub, 5169 Trumbull St., Detroit; 0.

Winds of Neptune w/ Dunamis + DJ Sovain Sylvain March 27, 9 pm; Bowlero Lanes & Lounge, 4209 Coolidge Hwy., Royal Oak; 0.

Saturday Mar 28

Live/Concert

The Mo'tet Ensemble 6:30-9:30 pm; Chicane, 885 Starkweather, Plymouth; no charge.

Escape the Fate Vip 5 pm; Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress St., Detroit;

GRAHAM BARHAM 7 pm; District 142, 142 Maple St., Wyandotte;

Hollywood Nights – The Bob Seger Experience 8 pm; Emerald Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens;

Lacuna Coil - Sleepless Empire Tour 2026 6:30 pm; Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress St., Detroit;

Magic Bag Presents: Double Duran (The Ultimate Duran Duran Experience) 7 pm; Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

Magic Bag Presents: K-Pop Demon Ravers Kids' Show 11 am; Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

The Mo'tet Ensemble 6:30-9:30 pm; Chicane, 885 Starkweather, Plymouth; no charge.

Obscura, Allegaeon, Cognitive, Cryptosis 6 pm; Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St., Hamtramck;

Saddle Up: Buckles & Ballgowns 8 pm; Diamondback Music Hall, 49345 S. Interstate 94 Service Dr., Belleville;

SCAR WOVEN , The Crimson Armada , Vexatious , From This Point On 7 pm; The Loving Touch, 22634 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

Sponge Bus Tour 2026 7 pm; The Firehouse Pub, 23018 Greater Mack Avenue, St. Clair Shores;

THE FELL featuring BILLY SHEEHAN 6:30 pm; The Token Lounge, 28949 Joy Rd., Westland;

WRIF Presents: Black Label Society 6:30 pm; The Fillmore, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit;

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The Marche du Nain Rouge returns to Detroit at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 22. COURTESY PHOTO

DJ/Dance

AHEE March 28, 7 pm; Pike Room, 1 S. Saginaw, Pontiac;

Saturday Grind 11 am-3 pm; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Saturday Grind 11 am-3 pm; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Water Anxiety w/ Treehouse Rivals + DJ Amy K March 28, 9 pm; Bowlero Lanes & Lounge, 4209 Coolidge Hwy., Royal Oak; 0.

Sunday Mar 29

Live/Concert

Magic Bag Presents: Quinn XCII: From Michigan With Love 8 pm; Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

HANABIE. - North America Tour 2026 6 pm; Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress St., Detroit;

Hayley and the Crushers w/ Sugar Sharp and The Bores 8 pm-midnight; Lager House, 1254 Michigan Ave., Detroit; 10.

Joshua Quimby , Matt Pless 7 pm; Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St., Hamtramck;

Magic Bag Presents: Quinn XCII: From Michigan With Love 7 pm; Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale;

Rock 'n' Shop at Showtime! Last Sunday of every month, 2-6 pm; Showtime Clothing, 9704 Joseph Campau Ave., Hamtramck; Free.

DJ/Dance

SPKR BRNCH 11 am-3 pm; Spkr Box, 200 Grand River, Detroit;

Open Mic

Sunday Service Karaoke Hosted by Sister DJ Larry 8 pm-1 am; Pronto! Royal Oak, 608 S. Washington, Royal Oak; No Cover.

Sunday Service Karaoke | DJ Larry noon-1 am; Pronto! Royal Oak, 608 S. Washington, Royal Oak; No Cover.

Monday Mar 30

Live/Concert

Megan From Work, Lester, Headless Mary, The Telephone Poles 7 pm; Sanctuary Detroit, 2932 Caniff St., Hamtramck;

Sky Covington's Preservation of Jazz Monday Night Music Series, Tributes presents A Tribute to Earth Wind & Fire ft. George Arnold, Al Smith & Rodney Humphrey 7:30-10 pm; Aretha's Jazz Cafe, 350 Madison St., Detroit; $35.

A Tribute to Earth Wind & Fire (Sky Covington's Preservation of Jazz Monday Night Music Series, "Tributes") 7:30-10 pm; Aretha's Jazz Cafe, 350 Madison St., Detroit; 35.00.

DJ/Dance

Adult Skate Night 8:30-11 pm; Lexus Velodrome, 601 Mack Ave., Detroit; $5.

Tuesday Mar 31

Live/Concert

Sean Blackman's In Transit 7-10 pm; Northern Lights Lounge, 660 W. Baltimore St., Detroit; no cover.

Guilt Trip & Malevolence with special guest Chamber 6 pm; The Shelter, 431 E. Congress St., Detroit;

Sean Blackman's In Transit 7-10 pm; Northern Lights Lounge, 660 W. Baltimore St., Detroit; no cover.

The Format w/ Ben Kweller 6 pm; Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak

Open Mic

Open Mic : Art in a Fly Space 7-10 pm; Detroit Shipping Company, 474 Peterboro St., Detroit; no cover.

VIP Tuesday Night Karaoke 9 pm-1 am; Pronto! Royal Oak, 608 S. Washington, Royal Oak; No Cover.

THEATER

Performance

Blind Pig Broadway Rave Oh Ann Arbor, have you done your vocal warmups yet? Calling all Musical Theatre nerds, drama geeks, actors, actresses, theatre lovers, and more! Welcome to Broadway Rave, a Broadway Dance Party celebrating the best in show-tunes and musical theatre. Come sing along to all of your favorite broadway hits while dressed up as your favorite character. We'll have surprise guests from some of your favorite Broadway stars! Live out your Broadway fantasies at Broadway Rave — the most POPULAR Broadway Dance party around. Don't be Wicked, meet us on the dance floor at The Blind Pig on March 21, 2026! $21.91 Saturday 8-10 pm.

Detroit Repertory Theatre Eclipsed ECLIPSED a play by Danai Gurira, directed by Shavonne Coleman. Five extraordinary women struggle to negotiate power, protection, and peace as they fight to survive in the Liberian Civil War. From actress-playwright Danai Gurira (BLACK PANTHER, THE WALKING DEAD), this gripping play unearths the wreckage of war, celebrating women navigating the most hostile of circumstances. $30 advance / $35 same day Fridays, Saturdays, 8-10 pm, Saturdays, 3-5 pm and Sundays, 2-3 pm.

Embassy Suites by Hilton Detroit Troy Auburn Hills The Magic Soiree - magic and comedy dinner show Magic and comedy show! The fun starts when you are shown to your table in The Atrium Bar and Grill. Close-up magic will be happening at your table. During this time dinner and drinks are available to purchase. Please order as soon as you arrive, so our fabulous magicians can work their mind-blowing magic right before your eyes. Then, step into our intimate 50-seat theater for an evening of astonishing illusions, hilarious entertainment. Our incredible stage show is guaranteed to leave you mesmerized! Early Soiree arrive at 5.15pm or Late Soiree arrive at 7.15pm See all our 5star reviews $40 and VIP tickets $45 Saturday 5:15-8 & 7:15-10 pm.; We host 2 Magic Soiree's 5.15pm and 7.15pm The fun starts when you are shown to your table in The Atrium Bar and Grill. Close-up magic will be happening at your table. During this time dinner and drinks are available to

purchase. Please order as soon as you arrive, so our fabulous magicians can work their mind-blowing magic right before your eyes. Then, step into our intimate 50-seat theater for an evening of astonishing illusions, hilarious entertainment. Our incredible stage show is guaranteed to leave you mesmerized! $40 and VIP tickets $45 Saturdays, 5:15-10 pm.

The Fillmore Orchestra Noir Presents - The Culture 2000 Tour Friday 7 pm.

Fox Theatre Dr Suess's The Cat in the Hat - Suite Rental Packages Saturday March 28, 11 am, 2 & 5 pm.; Saturday March 28, 11 am, 2 & 5 pm.

Matrix Theatre Company Women You Oughta Know Women You Oughta Know is a vibrant weekend of performances celebrating the voices, stories, and creative power of Detroit women. Presented by Matrix Theatre Company, the event features performances by local artists including Kamryn Marck, Lindsay McCaw, and Kristi Ternes, alongside additional community performers and guest headliners. Audiences will also hear from Detroit women entrepreneurs and meet local women-owned businesses showcased in the lobby. On Saturday, enjoy the special GLOW celebration with drinks and hors d'oeuvres. More than a show, Women You Oughta Know is a community-centered gathering uplifting women's artistry, stories, and livelihoods in Detroit. 25-50 Friday 7-9 pm, Saturday 5-8 pm and Sunday 3-5 pm.

Riverbank Theatre Boeing Boeing Set in the swinging 1960s, this high-speed French farce follows Bernard, a Parisian architect and self-styled lothario. Bernard has mastered a precarious balancing act, juggling three beautiful airline hostesses—Italian, German, and American—all engaged to him simultaneously. By tracking their flight schedules, he keeps his romantic life "one up, one down, and one pending." However, his foolproof system hits turbulence when a faster Boeing jet and unexpected weather delays bring all three women to his apartment at once. With his friend Robert caught in the crossfire, Bernard's domestic life spirals into a hilarious, high-stakes catastrophe of epic proportions. 38 Fridays, Saturdays, 7:30-10 pm, Sundays, 3-5:30 pm and Thursdays, 7:30-10 pm.

Royal Oak Music Theatre On Cinema Live Wednesday 7 pm.

Theatre NOVA The JonBenét Game by Tori Keenan-Zelt The JonBenét Game by Tori Keenan-Zelt NNPN Rolling World Premiere It's not whether you win or lose... When best friends Molly and Rae were 12, they secretly played JonBenét Ramsey at sleepovers. Twenty years later, in the wake of Molly's tragic death, Rae returns to her hometown school as a guidance counselor. But when Molly's 12-year-old daughter, Hazel, knocks on Rae's door, she and Rae slide back into the game, and the dark and liminal spaces of their unresolved grief. Directed by Carla Milarch. March 27 - April 19, 2026 General $30 / 65 & Over $25 / Students $15 Fridays, Saturdays, 8 pm and Sundays, 2 pm.

Musical

Detroit Opera House The Lion King (Touring) Wednesday 7:30 pm, Thursday 1 & 7:30 pm, Friday 7:30 pm, Saturday 2 & 7:30 pm, Sunday 1 & 6:30 pm, Tuesday 7:30 pm, Wednesday 7:30 pm, Thursday 7:30 pm, Friday March 27, 7:30 pm, Saturday March 28, 2 & 7:30 pm, Sunday March 29, 1 & 6:30 pm and Tuesday March 31, 7:30 pm.

Fisher Theatre - Detroit & Juliet (Touring) - Recommended for Ages 8 and Up with adult language Tuesday 7:30 pm, Wednesday 7:30 pm, Thursday 7:30 pm, Friday March 27, 7:30 pm, Saturday March 28, 2 & 7:30 pm and Sunday March 29, 1 & 6:30 pm.; Tuesday March 31, 7:30 pm.

Hilberry Gateway - STAGE The SpongeBob Musical Who lives in Hilberry Gateway under the sea? The SpongeBob Musical! Dive into this vibrant underwater adventure for all ages, where friendship (and a splash of optimism) saves the day. SpongeBob and his friends must come together to protect their home when a volcano threatens to destroy Bikini Bottom. Featuring original songs by music legends like Cyndi Lauper, John Legend, and Panic! At the Disco, this musical blends humor, heart, and spectacular high-energy performances. With famous characters and music, this family-friendly show promises an unforgettable journey of courage, community, and the power of positivity. $20-$30 Friday March 27, 7:30-10 pm, Saturday March 28, 2-4:30 & 7:30-10 pm and Sunday March 29, 3-5:30 pm.

Meadow Brook Theatre Come From Away Wednesday 7:30 pm, Thursday 7:30 pm, Friday 7:30 pm, Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 2 & 6:30 pm, Wednesday 2 & 7:30 pm, Thursday 7:30 pm, Friday March 27, 7:30 pm, Saturday March 28, 2 & 7:30 pm and Sunday March 29, 2 & 6:30 pm.

COMEDY

Improv

Go Comedy! Improv Theater Pandemonia The Allstar Showdown is a highly interactive improvised game show. With suggestions from the audience, our two teams will battle for your laughs. The Showdown is like "Whose Line is it Anyway," featuring a series of short improv games, challenges and more. Fridays and Saturdays 7:30pm & 9:30pm 25.00 Fridays, Saturdays.; $20 Every other Friday, 8 & 10 pm.

Stand-up

FIM Capitol Theatre Rob Schneider Rob Schneider brings his sharp, high-energy stand-up to FIM Capitol Theatre on Saturday, March 21. Known for his unmistakable humor and impressive career, Schneider delivers a night of nonstop laughs you won't want to miss. Tickets start at $51/$37 for Genesee County residents Saturday 8-9:30 pm.

Olympus Theater Comedy Night at the Olympus Theater Stand Up Comedy comes to the Olympus Theater in Palmer Park Detroit. Headliner - Josh Adams Featuring - Flint's JeCorey Hawkins Hosted by - Brandon Mullins Tickets are ONLY $15 online - $20 at the door. $15 Friday 7:30 pm.

Sound Board Tracy Morgan Saturday 8 pm.

The Comedy Bar Detroit SATURDAY MARCH 28: NATALIE CUOMO Corey O'Brien's Red Tour fearlessly brings sharp, unapologetic comedy to red states, challenging divides while creating a space where everyone—left, right, and in between—can laugh together. Bold, provocative, and uniting, Corey proves humor can bridge even the widest gap. "The Red Tour" is a fearless, boundary-shattering comedy experience that takes a hardcore liberal, gay Democrat into the heart of red states to stir things up—and bring laughter to places where it's desperately needed. Known for his sharp political wit and unapologetic candor, Corey is on a mission to shake up the status quo, offering a unique blend of controversial humor $25 Thursday 7-8:30 pm.; Corey O'Brien's Red Tour fearlessly brings sharp, unapologetic comedy to red states, challenging divides while creating a space where everyone—left, right, and in between—can laugh together. Bold, provocative, and uniting, Corey proves humor can bridge even the widest gap. "The Red Tour" is a fearless, boundary-shattering comedy experience that takes a hardcore liberal, gay Democrat into the heart of red states to stir things up—and bring laughter where it's desperately needed. $25-$35 Thursday 7-8:30 pm.; Natalie Cuomo is an internationally touring stand up comedian. Her debut album Shut Up You Loved It released by The Stand Comedy Club Records debuted at #1 on the iTunes comedy charts. Natalie can be seen on Ink Master: No More Ink! Season 16 on Paramount Plus. Natalie was named a Finalist in New York Comedy Festival's "New York's Funniest" Competition in 2024, and one of the festival's "Comics To Watch" in 2023. Natalie has amassed millions of followers across social media. She has been featured in Inked Magazine, New York Magazine, Time Out NY, Metal Injection, and LA Times. $25 Friday March 27, 7-8:30 pm and Saturday March 28, 7-8:30 & 9-10:30 pm.; Natalie Cuomo is an internationally touring stand up comedian. Her debut album Shut Up You Loved It released by The Stand Comedy Club Records debuted at #1 on the iTunes comedy charts. Natalie can be seen on Ink Master: No More Ink! Season 16 on Paramount Plus. Natalie was named a Finalist in New York Comedy Festival's "New York's Funniest" Competition in 2024, and one of the festival's "Comics To Watch" in 2023. Natalie has amassed millions of followers across social media. She has been featured in Inked Magazine, New York Magazine, Time Out NY, Metal Injection, and LA Times. $25-$35 Friday March 27, 7-8:30 pm.; Natalie Cuomo is an internationally touring stand up comedian. Her debut album Shut Up You Loved It released by The Stand Comedy Club Records debuted at #1 on the iTunes comedy charts. Natalie can be seen on Ink Master: No More Ink! Season 16 on Paramount Plus. Natalie was named a Finalist in New York Comedy Festival's "New York's Funniest" Competition in 2024, and one of the festival's "Comics To Watch" in 2023. Natalie has amassed millions of followers across social media. She has been featured in Inked Magazine, New York Magazine, Time Out NY, Metal Injection, and LA Times. $25-$35 Saturday March 28, 7-8:30 pm.; Natalie Cuomo is an internationally touring stand up comedian. Her debut album Shut Up You Loved It released by The Stand Comedy Club Records debuted at #1 on the iTunes comedy charts. Natalie can be seen on Ink Master: No More Ink! Season 16 on Paramount Plus. Natalie was named a Finalist in New York Comedy Festival's "New York's Funniest" Competition in 2024, and one of the festival's "Comics To Watch" in 2023. Natalie has amassed millions of followers across social media. She has been featured in Inked Magazine, New York Magazine, Time Out NY, Metal Injection, and LA Times. $25-$35 Saturday March 28, 9-10:15 pm.

Woodbridge Pub Women's History Month Comedy Night Celebration ft. Emma Stevenson This monthly comedy show & open mic features aspiring to professional comedians from the region, and beyond. A sneaky way to see up-and-coming comics perform, before you'll need tickets just to be in the same room! This late night stage has a perfect blend of

MAKE IT COUNT
PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY.
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entertainment, with an inclusive food menu & drink specials that keep people coming back. Our Women's History Month Celebration features SE Michigan's own Emma Stevenson and is hosted by the fabulous, the hilarious and hard-working Kate Doré. Get there early, seating is first-come, first-served. Open mic sign-up at 9:30. Free show with free street parking. Free Tuesday 10-11:45 pm.

Continuing This Week Stand-up

Ann Arbor Marriott at Eagle Crest Resort The Dinner Detective True Crime Murder Mystery Dinner Show - Ypsilanti, MI North America's largest award-winning interactive true crime murder mystery dinner show invites you into a night of laughter, mystery, and audience-driven intrigue. Enjoy a full dinner while a hilarious crime unfolds around you—but stay alert. The culprit is hiding in plain sight, and before the night is over, you could find yourself named a Prime Suspect. Now playing at Ann Arbor Marriott at Eagle Crest Resort in Ypsilanti, MI, this murder mystery dinner experience is unlike traditional dinner theater. $79.39 Saturday March 28, 6:30-9:30 pm.

Blind Pig Blind Pig Comedy FREE Mondays, 8 pm.

The Independent Comedy Club at Planet Ant The Sh*t Show Open Mic: Every Friday & Saturday at The Independent A weekly open mic featuring both local amateurs and touring professionals. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. and the show begins at 9 pm.. The evening always ends with karaoke in the attached Ghost Light Bar! Doors and Sign up 8:30 p.m. Show at 9 p.m. $5 suggested donation. Attached bar Ghost Light opens at 7 p.m. $5 Suggested Donation Thursdays, 9-10:30 pm.; A late night, heckle encouraged, show up, go up stand-up open mic featuring both local amateurs and touring professionals. Sign up starts at 10:30 and the show begins at 11p. Doors and Sign Up 10:30p | Show at 11p | $5 Suggested Donation* Attached bar Ghost Light opens at 7p The independent Comedy Club is a comedy club run by comics for comics inside Planet Ant Theatre. The club runs Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, offering independently produced comedy shows from 8p-12a. Presented by Planet Ant *Planet Ant Theatre, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization; no ticket or reservation is required $5 Suggested Donation Fridays, Saturdays, 11 pm-1:30 am.

Salt + Ko Tony Roney's Hilarious Sunday Night Comedy, Every Sunday @ Salt + Ko Inside The Radisson Hotel 26555 Telegraph Rd Southfield, MI. Tony Roney's Hilarious Friday & Saturday Night Comedy, Inside Starters Bar & Grill, 18426 Plymouth Rd Detroit MI. Show Time 8pm. Tickets $25.00 . This comedy show will showcase Detroit's funniest up and coming comedians. Sponsored by Tony Roney's Comic Vibe. For more info contact Kamilah @ 313 729 0502 or 248 906 6119. 25.00 Fridays, 8-10 pm and Saturdays, 8-10 pm.; Tony Roney's Comic Vibe Presents "Tony Roney's Hilarious Sunday Night Comedy, Every Sunday @ Salt + Ko Inside The Radisson Hotel 26555 Telegraph Rd Southfield, MI. Show Time 8pm. Tickets $25.00 . This comedy show will showcase Detroit's funniest up and coming comedians. Sponsored by Tony Roney's Comic Vibe. For more info contact Kamilah @ 313 729 0502 or 248 906 6119. #highlightseveryonefollowers, #thingstodothisweekend, #thingstodoonsaturday, #thingstodoindetroit, #THEKRACKJOKERS, #tonyroneyscomicvibe, #TKJ, #easternmarket, #easternmarketdetroit, #UnitedStatesEvents, #michiganevents, #detroitcomedy, #michiganevents, #detroitperformances, #afterchristmas, #afterchristmascomedy, #newyearcomedy, #DetroitNightLife, #openmiccomedy, #eventbrite, #eventbritetickets, #comedy2026, #comedyindetroit, #newyear2026, #newyearcomedy, #RadissonHotels, #kamilah, #thingstodoonsunday 25 Sundays, 12-7:30 pm.; "Tony Roney's Hilarious Sunday Night Comedy, Every Sunday @ Salt + Ko Inside The Radisson Hotel 26555 Telegraph Rd Southfield, MI. Show Time 6pm & 8pm. Tickets $25.00. This comedy show will showcase Detroit's funniest up and coming comedians. Sponsored by Tony Roney's Comic Vibe. For more info contact Kamilah @ 313 729 0502 or 248 906 6119. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1979459688213?aff=oddtdtcreator #highlightseveryonefollowers, #thingstodothisweekend, #thingstodoonsaturday, #thingstodoindetroit, #THEKRACKJOKERS, #tonyroneyscomicvibe, #TKJ, #easternmarket, #easternmarketdetroit, #UnitedStatesEvents, #michiganevents, #detroitcomedy, #michiganevents, #detroitperformances, #afterchristmas, #afterchristmascomedy, #newyearcomedy, #DetroitNightLife, #openmiccomedy, #eventbrite, #eventbritetickets, #comedy2026, #comedyindetroit, #newyear2026, #newyearcomedy, #RadissonHotels, #kamilah, #thingstodoonsunday, $40.00 Sundays, 6-7:30 & 8-10 pm.; Tony Roney's Hilarious Sunday Night Comedy, Every Sunday @ Salt + Ko Inside The Radisson Hotel 26555 Telegraph Rd Southfield, MI. Show Time 6pm & 8pm. Tickets $25.00 . This comedy show will showcase Detroit's funniest up and coming comedians. Sponsored by Tony Roney's Comic Vibe. For more info contact Kamilah @ 313 729 0502 or 248 906 6119. #highlightseveryonefollowers, #thingstodothisweekend, #thingstodoonsaturday, #thingstodoindetroit, #THEKRACKJOKERS, #tonyroneyscomicvibe, #TKJ, #easternmarket, #easternmarketdetroit, #UnitedStatesEvents, #michiganevents, #detroitcomedy, #michiganevents, #detroitperformances, #afterchristmas, #afterchristmascomedy, #newyearcomedy, #DetroitNightLife, #openmiccomedy, #eventbrite, #eventbritetickets, #comedy2026, #comedyindetroit, #newyear2026, #newyearcomedy, #RadissonHotels, #kamilah, #thingstodoonsunday, https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1979459688213?aff=oddtdtcreator https://patch.com/michigan/detroit/calendar/event/20260111/1e3aa078-38cb-4db6-a8b3-1e977ffad43f/tony-roneys-hilarious-sunday-night-comedy https://community.metrotimes.com/event/tony-roneys-hilarious-sunday-night-comedy-every-sunday-salt-ko-inside-the-radisson-hotel-26555-telegraph-rd-southfield-mi-41008277 25.00 Sundays, 6-7:30 pm.

Starter's Bar and Grill Hilarious Friday & Saturday Night Comedy – Starring Tony Roney & The Krack Jokers Tony Roney's Hilarious Friday & Saturday Night Comedy, Inside Starters Bar & Grill, 18426 Plymouth Rd Detroit MI. Show Time 8pm. Tickets $25.00. This comedy show will showcase Detroit's funniest up and coming comedians. Sponsored by Tony Roney's Comic Vibe. For more info contact Kamilah @ 313 729 0502 or 248 906 6119. #highlightseveryonefollowers, #thingstodothisweekend, #thingstodoonsaturday, #thingstodoindetroit, #THEKRACKJOKERS, #tonyroneyscomicvibe, #TKJ, #easternmarket, #easternmarketdetroit, #UnitedStatesEvents, #michiganevents, #detroitcomedy, #michiganevents, #detroitperformances, #afterchristmas, #afterchristmascomedy, #newyearcomedy, #DetroitNightLife, #openmiccomedy, #eventbrite, #eventbritetickets, #comedy2026, #comedyindetroit, #newyear2026, #newyearcomedy, #RadissonHotels, #kamilah, #thingstodoonsunday, #Starter's Bar and Grill https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1979459688213?aff=oddtdtcreator https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1981329840890?aff=oddtdtcreator https://patch.com/michigan/detroit/calendar/event/20260111/1e3aa078-38cb-4db6-a8b3-1e977ffad43f/tony-roneys-hilarious-sunday-night-comedy https://community.metrotimes.com/event/tony-roneys-hilarious-sunday-night-comedy-every-sunday-salt-ko-inside-the-radisson-hotel-26555-telegraph-rd-southfield-mi-41008277 25.00 Fridays, 8-10 pm.

FILM

Screening

Emagine Canton The Best Of Hollywood At Emagine Michigan Theaters : Week 2 Best of Hollywood is back at Emagine! Get ready for the 2026 awards ceremony by joining us for special screenings of all of the Best Picture nominees! Locations: Films and Showtimes will vary by location. Check local listings. Showing at Emagine Canton, Novi, Birmingham 8, Birch Run, Rochester Hills Film Schedule: Week 2: March 13 - 19 ONE BATTLE AFTER ANOTHER MARTY SUPREME SINNERS HAMNET TRAIN DREAMS Theaters, dates, and showtimes are subject to change. Visit www.Emagine-Entertainment.com for a full list of theatre locations and showtimes. Through 12-11 pm.

Film festival

Michigan Theater 64 Ann Arbor Film Festival 64 Ann Arbor Film Festival Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday March 27, Saturday March 28 and Sunday March 29.

ART

Art Fair

Michigan Theater Sheida Soleimani: What a Revolutionary Must Know Penny Stamps Speaker Series. Open to the public. Free of charge. Sheida Soleimani is an Iranian-American artist, educator, and activist. The daughter of political refugees who escaped Iran in the early 1980s, Soleimani makes work that excavates the histories of violence linking Iran, the United States, and the Greater Middle East. In working across form and medium — especially photography, sculpture, collage, and film — she often appropriates source images from popular/digital media and resituates them within defamiliarizing tableaux. Free Thursday 5:30-7 pm.

Venue by 4M Restuarant Wine Down Wednesday + Candle-Making Join us for a relaxed candle-making workshop where beautiful scents, hands-on creativity, and a warm, welcoming atmosphere come together. Laugh, connect, and enjoy the process — no experience needed. Wine will be available for purchase at 50% off that evening. 60 Wednesday 6-8 pm.

Artist talk

Artist Talk - Ashley Menth Join us for an Artist talk with Ashley Menth who's artwork in on display at MAC Galleries through 4/11 Saturday 5-7 pm; MAC Galleries, 18943 Livernois Ave., Detroit; Free; 3138717690; www.macgalleries.com.

Artistic Anatomy 1 Yr. Certificate Program Artistic Anatomy , one year certificate course, is certified by the National Artistic Anatomy Society, and begins September 4, 2025. The location is Moose Tree Studio, 3191 W Clarkston Rd., Lake Orion, MI 48362. The class takes place every Thursday, 6pm - 8:30pm. The course includes step-by-step drawing demonstrations of the human skeleton and muscle structures, plus, each student will create a 15" standing figure sculpture of the skeleton and muscles. Instructors - Eugene Clark and Diane Heath. Attend in-person each week, or, enjoy the Live-stream. Tuition is $250.00 per month. www.heathart.com Thursdays, 6-8:30 pm; Moose Tree Studio, 3191 W Clarkston Rd, Lake Orion; $250.00; 3136589181; www.heathart.com/.

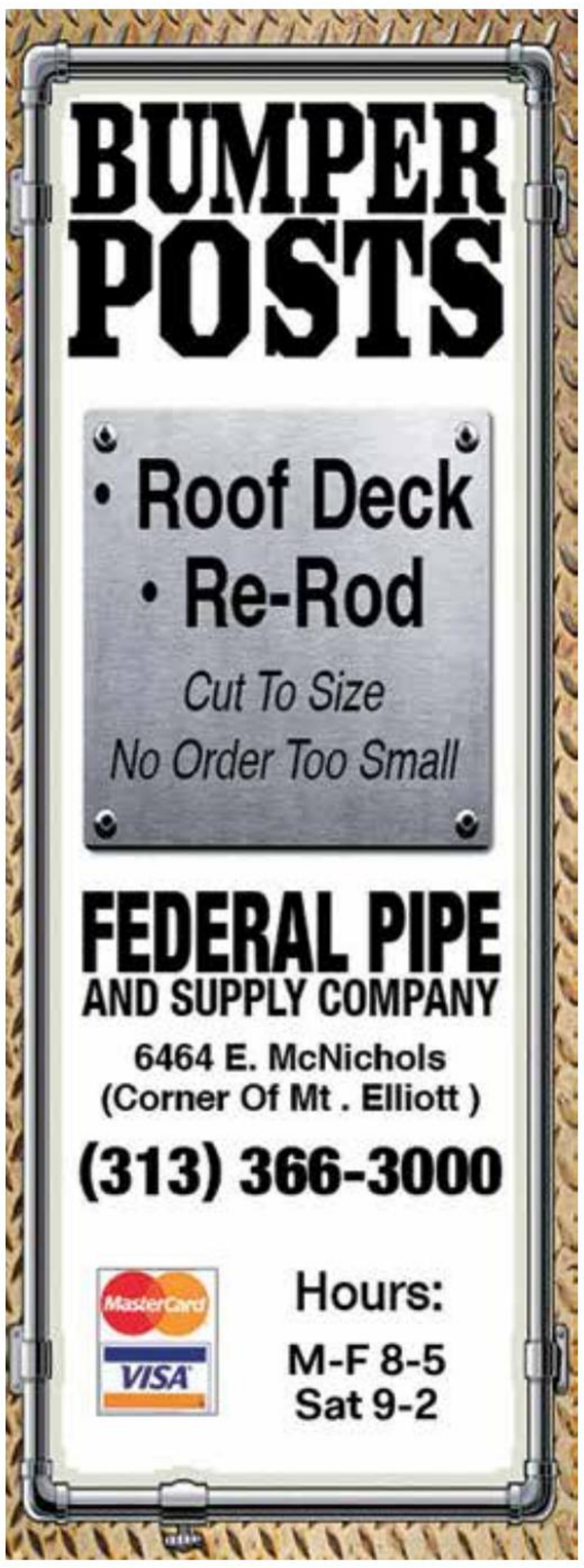
Cranbrook Academy of Art Public Lecture with Noah Breuer - Republishing the Archive Join Cranbrook Academy of Art at deSalle Auditorium for a free, public lecture with Noah Breuer on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at 6pm. Please enter through the Cranbrook Academy of Art Library; Cranbrook Art Museum's galleries close at 5pm. In his lecture, "Republishing the Archive," Breuer will discuss cultural legacy, authorship, the tension between appropriation and contemporary artistic production. Noah Breuer is an American artist and Professor of Print Media at the University at Buffalo, SUNY. Wednesday 6-7:30 pm; Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills; Free; 248-645-3323; cranbrookartmuseum.org/events/caa-public-lecture-noah-breuer/.

Shana Moulton: Whispering Pines Penny Stamps Speaker Series. Open to the public. Free of charge. Shana Moulton is an artist who works in video and performance. Her work blends feminist sensibilities with surrealist imagery and sound to probe the complexities of the contemporary psyche. Her ongoing Whispering Pines series investigates self-help culture, the pursuit of spiritual fulfillment, and the often comical absurdities of personal wellness rituals. Across performances, videos, and installations, Moulton uses her alter ego, Cynthia, to craft narratives that are both deeply personal and widely relatable, exploring the shifting boundaries between the mundane and the mystical. Thursday 5:30-7

pm; Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor; Free; 734-668-8480; stamps.umich.edu/events/shana-moulton.

Toyota Lecture Series: Industry EXPOsion: Illustration and Entertainment Arts Immerse yourself in the world of animation, gaming, concept art, and illustration through compelling industry presentations and discussions with renowned creative professionals. These discussions are presented by CCS's Toyota Lecture Series, which features presentations by prominent guest speakers from the international design community. These speakers will offer insights into current and future trends shaping the industry landscape, providing personal overviews of their creative journeys and highlighting the evolution of their craft. Join us as they share their experiences in drawing inspiration from continuous learning and harnessing creativity to drive success Thursday 4-9 pm; College for Creative Studies Wendell B. Anderson Auditorium, 201 East Kirby St., Detroit; www.ccsdetroit.edu/venue/college-for-creative-studies-wendell-w-anderson-jr-auditorium-walter-b-ford-ii-building/.

The Vinyl Society Vibes & Verses Spoken Word Poetry Night What to Expect: An inspiring space for poets and artists to shine Electrifying music sets that set the perfect backdrop A lively open mic segment encouraging community participation Spotlight features from top local talent Produced by B Cyde Broadcasting Network (www.thebcyde.online), Vibes & Verses aims to foster a safe, welcoming environment where creativity flows freely and voices are amplified. Whether you're a poetry enthusiast, a casual listener, or an aspiring artist, this night is designed for everyone eager to experience the power of spoken word. Join us every Wednesday evening at Vinyl Society and be part of Detroit's thriving arts Free Wednesdays, 7-10 pm.



Art Exhibition

Art Leaders Gallery Sheefy: Just the Beginning | Solo Exhibition Reception Art Leaders Gallery presents Sheefy: Just the Beginning, a solo exhibition by Detroit-based artist Sheefy McFly. On view March 20–April 18, 2026, the exhibition opens with a free public reception on Thursday, March 19, featuring light bites, refreshments, and an artist talk. RSVP is required. Debuting a new collection of original works, the show highlights Sheefy's bold visual language bridging contemporary art and music. A Detroit native and College for Creative Studies alumnus, Sheefy reflects the city's energy and culture. This exhibition marks a pivotal career moment, presenting new originals exclusively at Art Leaders Gallery. Thursday 6-9 pm.

College for Creative Studies - Center Galleries Echoes: CCS Alumni Voices in Clay Opening Reception: Friday, March 20, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm Gallery Hours: March 25-28 Tuesday–Saturday, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm; Extended hours during NCECA conference Echoes: Alumni Voices in Clay gathers the work of CCS Ceramics alumni whose practices continue to expand the field of contemporary ceramics. Their approaches reflect both continuity and change—shaped in part by their time at CCS, but equally by the personal experiences, cultural influences, and creative communities that inform their work today. Each artist builds upon a foundation of skill and inquiry while forging distinct paths that embody personal vision, cultural perspective, and material innovation. Friday 5-8 pm.

Color & Ink Studio FEEDER Exhibition - Closing Reception Color | Ink Studio & Gallery presents "FEEDER," a group exhibition of work by a trio of Detroit artists: Stacey MacLeod, Megan DeShields, and Sarah Cavalieri. The public is invited to attend the Closing Reception on Friday evening, March 27 from 5–9 pm. It's free, and guests will have the opportunity to meet the artists and discuss their work in person. There will be live music and light refreshments. Free parking is available in the adjacent lot and on the side streets. Regular Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 1 to 5 pm; other times are available by appointment. Free Friday March 27, 5-9 pm.

Hellenic Museum of Michigan #WeAreGreekWarriors: From the Greek Revolution to Today – The Power of the Heroines of 1821 Lives in Every Woman #WeAreGreekWarriors brings the heroines of 1821 into today's cultural conversation through bold contemporary art and modern storytelling. These fighters and champions of freedom helped shape history, yet many remain unknown. Now their stories come alive at the Hellenic Museum of Michigan in a groundbreaking exhibition featuring original campaign prints alongside works by contemporary artist Ramona Pintea. Reclaiming history through a fearless lens, the exhibit honors the women of the Greek Revolution while connecting their strength to women today through dynamic programming, cultural events, and interactive experiences. For more information, visit www.hellenicmi.org. Free Wednesdays-Sundays, 11 am-3 pm.

Northville Art House Northville High School IB Art Exhibition This exhibition features artwork created by 28 students enrolled in Northville High School's International Baccalaureate (IB) Visual Art experience. In the program, students developed problem-solving skills and proficiency as artists by exploring and experimenting in a variety of contemporary practices and media. For the program's culmination, the students install a selection of their best works in our galley, each with thoughtfully written object labels. Free Tuesdays-Thursdays.

Robyn Check the Erratum Check the Erratum is a group ceramic exhibition featuring Detroit-area artists Anthony Marsalese, Brooke Herzing, and Sue O'Connor, presented at Robyn Detroit from March 24–29. Moving between functional objects and sculptural forms, the exhibition explores revision, process, and the quiet resonance of imperfection inherent to working with clay. Thrown, handbuilt, and slip-cast works unfold through layered surfaces, linear patterning, and expressive hand-formed vessels that balance control with spontaneity, positioning ceramics as a record of touch, time, and change. An opening reception will be held Friday, March 27, from 6–9pm. free Friday March 27, 6-9 pm.

Sugar Hill Clay Exhibition and Open House: Practice/Progress/ Play | NCECA 2026 Clay Around Town Event Sugar Hill Clay, a community ceramics studio in Detroit, is hosting an exhibition and open house March 25-27. Practice/Progress/ Play brings together the work of students and members at Sugar Hill Clay, valuing early efforts as much as polished results. Together, these works make visible the learning process—how repetition, persistence, curiosity, and experimentation transform not only the clay but the maker—and our goal for sustaining a practice that evolves. This exhibit is part of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) 2026 Conference. Studio tours available. Wednesday 10 am-5 pm, Thursday 5-8 pm and Friday March 27, 12-3 & 6-9 pm.

Anton Art Center Michigan Annual LIII January 31st through February 28, the Center's first floor gallery will host the 53rd annual statewide fine art competition and exhibition, Michigan Annual II, juried by Grace Serra. Serra is the Art Collection Curator at Wayne State University and serves as the Exhibition Curator at the University of Michigan's North Campus Research Complex. With 30+ years in Public Arts, she has coordinated many major art installations in the Detroit People Mover, Detroit Receiving Hospital, and Children's Hospital. Free Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 am-5 pm.

Cranbrook Art Museum Constellations & Affinities: Selections from the Cranbrook Collection "Constellations and Affinities: Selections from the Cranbrook Collection" is now open at Cranbrook Art Museum! Sampling from the Cranbrook Collection, this ongoing exhibition gathers a broad and eclectic sampling of objects made by artists, architects, and designers associated with Cranbrook Academy of Art. Arranged like a contemporary curiosity cabinet, the works on view span numerous media and represent a broad range of practices taught at the Academy. Works have been arranged in various constellations to compare and contrast certain affinities in materials, processes, and approaches among the artists while acknowledging the singular artistic vision of each maker. Museum Admission, Free on Thursdays Wednesdays-Sundays, 11 am-5 pm.

Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) Thursdays at the Museum: Highlights of the Permanent Collection Free Tuesdays-Sundays, 1 pm, Fridays, 6 pm and Saturdays, Sundays, 3 pm.; Free Thursdays, 1 pm.

Habatat Galleries Matriarchs of Mastery – Women Shaping the Future of Glass Art Habatat proudly presents Matriarchs of Mastery: Women Shaping the Future of Glass Art, showcasing over 20 visionary women redefining glass through innovation and craftsmanship. Featured artists include Jen Blazina, Christina Bothwell, Nancy Callan, Amber Cowan, Anja Isphording, Claire Kelly, Lucy Lyon, Josepha Gasch-Muche, Sibylle Peretti, Marlene Rose, April Surgent, and more. Many works were recently featured at the Sarasota Glass Art Fair. Join us in February 2025 to celebrate their impact. For inquiries or to RSVP, contact Habatat Galleries. 0.00 Every 24 days, 12-5 pm.

Northville Art House Collective Inspirations The Chelsea Painters invite viewers to experience a collection of work shaped by shared curiosity, expressive freedom, and the subtle transformations that unfold when artists grow together. Each work in this exhibition reflects a distinct creative voice—yet together, these pieces form a harmonious tapestry of color, gesture, and imagination. Across diverse media and subjects, the artists draw strength from one another, finding inspiration in both their differences and their common dedication to pursuing excellence in their painting careers. The result is a vibrant celebration of community, creativity, and the joy that emerges when individual visions converge. Free Tuesdays-Saturdays.

Oakland County International Airport Aviation Impressionism, Acrylic on Canvas "Fly high , take chances " A collection of impressionist Aviation works by local Greg Upshur. Runs through May..Free In the lobby at Oakland County International Mon thru Fri 9 to 5 free Mondays-Fridays.

The Baker House Gallery at VITRINE The Artwork of Peggy Kerwan The Gallery at the Baker House is pleased to present a solo exhibition of work by Peggy Kerwan, a self-taught artist who has been painting and exhibiting since 2006. Working primarily in acrylic and mixed media, Kerwan creates vibrant, energetic compositions inspired largely by her imagination and the many sources of inspiration she encounters in everyday life. Known for her bold color and expressive style, Kerwan's paintings celebrate creativity, movement, and spontaneity. An artist reception will held on March 22 from 5-7pm. Kerwan's work can be seen at VITRINE during regular business hours from March 10-April 12, 2026. Free Mondays-Saturdays, 10 am-6 pm, Sundays, 12-5 pm and Sunday 5-7 pm. MT

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A smashburger from Patty & Press in Shelby Township. PERRY HASELDEN

Smashburger spot celebrates grand opening in Shelby Township

A new Detroit-area burger joint is joining in on the smashburger trend.

Patty & Press is set to celebrate its grand opening in Shelby Township starting at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 21. The business says the first 100 guests through the door will receive one free burger, limit one per person.

The business had a soft opening in December, and says demand for what they bill as a "better-for-you" burger spot with 100% grass-fed beef has been so high that they are expanding their kitchen.

"We knew there was a hole in the market, but the soft-launch proved it was a canyon," co-founder Brandon Gorgies said in a statement. "People are tired of the 'health tax.' They want a burger made with grass-fed beef, served on an artisanal bun, and fries cooked in beef tallow without paying sit-down restaurant prices. We've spent the last 90 days scaling our kitchen specifically so we can keep those prices low while moving at the speed of fast food."

Gorgies is joined in the venture by co-founder Goran Dimic, both of G&B Hospitality, who come from experience running the Naked Burger in Clinton Township.

"Growing up in immigrant households, we didn't have the luxury of expensive healthy meals," Dimic said in a statement. "Patty & Press is about democratizing that quality. We use the same high-standard ingredients we serve our own families, but we've created a business model where the average person on their lunch break can afford it."

Its "Classic Smash" meal is offered with fries and a Coca-Cola for $12.90 before taxes.

Patty & Press says it sources its buns from Rising Stars Academy, which provides vocational training for adults with disabilities, and the ice cream for its milkshakes from Guernsey Farms Dairy.

A smashburger is a style of hamburger made by pressing a ball of ground beef flat onto a hot griddle, creating a thin patty with crispy, caramelized edges. The style has become embraced in the Detroit area in recent years at spots like Kelly's Bar in Hamtramck and the local chain Just Smash It, a favorite of Detroit rappers.

While U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has touted beef tallow as a healthier alternative to seed oils, nutrition experts refute the claim.

Patty & Press is located at 52300 Van Dyke Ave., Shelby Twp.

—Lee DeVito

One burger after another: A decade of the Detroit Burger Battle

The Detroit Burger Battle is celebrating 10 years of its popular food event by bringing back its previous winners to compete for the "Burger of the Decade."

The event is also expanding to Grand Rapids for the first time.

The Detroit Burger Battle is set for Sunday, June 28 at Eastern Market, with the Grand Rapids event planned for July.

"Hitting the 10-year mark for the Detroit Burger Battle is incredibly special, and we wanted to do something really big to celebrate," organizer Scott Rutterbush of Dine Drink Detroit said in a statement. "We're bringing back some of our previous winners who will go up against newcomers to crown the ultimate Burger of the Decade. At the same time, the demand we've seen across the state made this the perfect year to take this energy to Grand Rapids."

The Detroit event offers attendees unlimited samples of burgers from a dozen local restaurateurs while supplies last and vote for their favorites in the People's Choice award. A panel of local celebrity judges will also choose their favorites.

The family-friendly event also includes live entertainment, merchandise vendors, and free games and activities. A full cash bar is also available.

Early bird tickets are available starting at $20 from burgerbattle.info.

The Grand Rapids edition is planned to take place Saturday, July 11 at Northern End of Riverside Park. More information is available at grburgerbattle.com.

The organizers also host a similar Detroit Taco Showdown event at Eastern Market, set for Sunday, July 26. More information is available at tacoshowdown.com.

"Whether we are judging the perfect sear on a patty or the balance of a craft margarita, these events are ultimately about bringing people together to celebrate our vibrant hospitality industry," Rutterbush said. "Expanding to Grand Rapids while celebrating ten years at home makes this our biggest summer yet."

—Lee DeVito

Mexican-themed coffee house opens in Ferndale

After opening Ferndale's Mezcal Mexican Bar & Kitchen in 2021, sibling owners Sandra Haro and Jose Granados are expanding with a new venture.

Balam Coffee & Wine opened to the public on Monday at 207 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale, not far from their restaurant.

A press release describes the concept as "a café, wine bar and gathering space." It offers Mexican-inspired coffees like a marzipan-flavored drink or the Chocolate Abuelita, made with Mexican hot chocolate and cinnamon, in addition to a rotating selection of Latin American wines.

The menu will also include Mexican pastries, wraps, and juices.

"Our goal with Balam is to create something that feels different but familiar," Granados said in a statement. "It's a place to slow down, enjoy great coffee or wine, and experience flavors tied to Latin American culture."

The name comes from the Mayan word for "jaguar," which the press release calls "the most sacred and powerful animal in Mesoamerican mythology" that "represents a complex blend of physical ferocity, spiritual protection and divine authority."

"The jaguar is a protector and a strong animal in the culture," Haro said in a statement. "That meaning resonated with us as we thought about creating a space that feels welcoming, intentional and rooted in our heritage."

The siblings say that the space is "a reflection" of their childhoods and travels in Mexico, and the coffee and decor was sourced from there.

The new space can seat around 30 guests.

More information is available on the Balam Coffee & Wine Instagram page: @balam_ferndale.

Mezcal Mexican Bar & Kitchen has locations in Ferndale, Detroit, and Dearborn.

—Lee DeVito MT

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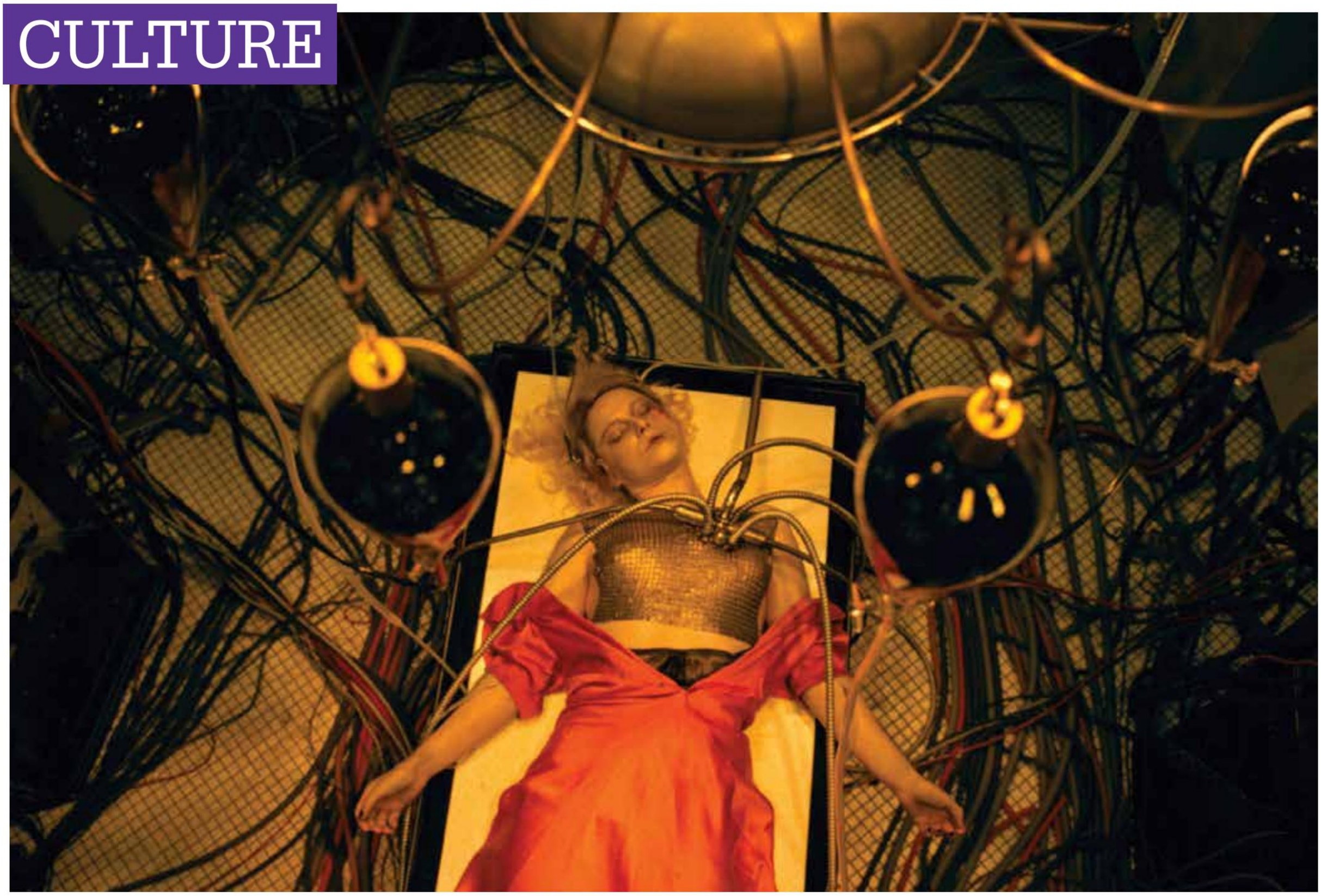

Jessie Buckley plays the bride of Frankenstein in this messy reimagining. WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Film

A monster of a movie

By Jared Rasic, Last Word Features

The Bride!

Rated: R

Run-time: 126 minutes

It isn't much of a hot take to suggest this, but the only classic Universal monster movie better than James Whale's 1931 *Frankenstein* is his 1935 sequel, *The Bride of Frankenstein*. In fact, the only thing keeping it from being a legitimately perfect film is the "Bride" problem. She shows up toward the tail end of the third act and we get nary a chance to see Frank and his Bride spending much time together.

In her new blisteringly singular remix, *The Bride!*, Maggie Gyllenhaal addresses this directly by spending an entire two hours unpacking what a relationship between two mostly dead monsters would look like. This isn't a remake of *The Bride of Frankenstein*, instead, it's a deeply feminist visual feast anchored by two live-wire central performances. It also has a messy, overstuffed script that never congeals into a coherent whole... and I'm OK with that.

Jessie Buckley (who's likely about a week away from winning the Best Actress Oscar for *Hamnet*) plays the Bride. Well, not just the Bride. Let's try this again. Buckley plays Mary Shelley, who, in her quest to tell a horrific love story, possesses Ida, a wild and nearly feral woman who frequents a mob-run bar in 1930s Chicago. After Ida is thrown down the stairs and killed by mobsters, she's exhumed by a cripplingly lonely Frankenstein's Monster (a properly unhinged Christian Bale) and Dr. Cornelia Euphronious (a very game Annette Bening), the mad scientist he has hired to build him a bride.

After pumping thousands of volts of electricity into her corpse, here comes the Bride, who, still possessed by the ghost of Shelley, goes on a Bonnie and Clyde-ish rampage filled with mutilated bodies, Rogers and Astaire-esque dance sequences, car chases and a love that death could never quench.

Gyllenhaal proves her bona fides immediately as a brilliantly singular visual stylist in just her second film as director. While her debut, *The Lost Daughter*, was an underrated psychological drama about complicated mothers, *The Bride!* feels like it was birthed from a different filmmaker altogether. Even with multiple narrative dead ends and reams of clunky dialogue, every frame is gorgeous, a product of a limitless imagination unbound. It's a miracle the film even exists; it's something so personal, so deeply strange that its release in megaplexes across the world by a major studio feels like a product of the 1970s auteur-driven New Hollywood movement.

As mesmerizing as Buckley is as the Bride, it's also one of those performances that's so "showy" that a lesser actor would have derailed the film. She plays the Bride and Shelley like different notes of the same song: Shelley is British, with a throaty, aristocratic delivery, while Ida/the Bride has a thick Chicago growl. Buckley bounces between the two with a manic intensity that feels equal parts Dissociative Identity Disorder, Tourettes and full-blown supernatural possession. She's so volatile and unapologetically batshit that Frank is having the time of his life. He has been lonely for so many decades that her furious intensity immediately makes him feel alive again.

Is Frank and the Bride's relationship meant to be unhealthy and toxic, blisteringly sexy, or sweepingly romantic? I'll answer that with a resounding "sure?" In fact, that might be the film's most potent metaphor: the movie itself is Frankenstein's monster.

The Bride! features a "Monster Mash" needle-drop, a graphic curb stomping reminiscent of *American History X*, and a graveyard of wasted performances from Jake Gyllenhaal, Julianne Hough, Peter Sarsgaard, Penelope Cruz, and John Magaro. Complete with two or three completely pointless subplots, the movie is so overstuffed that the exclamation point in the title is a not-so-subtle hint of the excesses to come. It's a bit of a train wreck, but I'm still recommending it with my full chest. It's a mess, but my gosh, it's a fearless one.

Maggie Gyllenhaal channels the dark and doomed romances of *Badlands*, *Wild at Heart*, and *Joker: Folie à Deux* alongside the punk chaos of *Repo Man*, the drunk-on-movies nostalgia of *Cinema Paradiso*, and the slapstick goofiness of *Young Frankenstein*. Tonally, it barely works on any level, yet I somehow still loved watching it. *The Bride!*doesn't nail many of its thematic messages regarding women's agency, but it's still hard not to swoon over the sheer ambition of a movie this audaciously subversive. It easily could have been a shoddily thrown-together patchwork corpse of a movie. Instead it's something breathtakingly, beautifully, and repulsively alive. MT

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Michigan's recreational cannabis market is oversaturated with weed. STEVE NEAVLING

The Straight Dope

Cannabis tax windfall shrinks for Michigan cities as sales decline

By Steve Neavling

Michigan communities that embraced recreational cannabis are collecting millions of dollars in taxes again this year, but the checks are shrinking as the legal market continues to stumble.

The state doled out about $93.8 million in cannabis tax revenue to municipalities, counties, and tribes based on sales from fiscal year 2025, down from nearly $100 million the previous year. It's the first decline since recreational cannabis sales began in 2019, as the market faces oversupply and years of falling prices.

And the near future isn't looking any brighter. In January, cannabis sales fell to their lowest level in three years after Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and lawmakers imposed a new 24% wholesale tax, despite industry-wide warnings that the increase would accelerate the decline and fuel the illicit market.

The drop in sales is bad news for cities, townships, villages, and counties that have come to rely on the revenue to help fund roads, education, parks, police, and firefighters.

This year, communities receive about $54,017 per dispensary, down from $58,228 last year.

The payments come from the 10% excise tax on recreational marijuana, which is separate from the state's 6% sales tax. Each city, township, or village receives a fixed payment based on the number of licensed dispensaries or microbusinesses operating within its borders.

With 61 dispensaries, Detroit leads the state in excise tax revenue, with a $3.3 million payout this year. In 2023, Detroit had 33 dispensaries and received about $1.95 million in excise tax revenue.

Detroit has said it plans to use some cannabis tax revenue to help address the disproportionate impact of marijuana prohibition by providing programs that support social-equity entrepreneurs and business opportunities for Detroiters.

In metro Detroit, Hazel Park ranked second with about $594,000 in tax revenue from 11 dispensaries, but the city lost Clarity, a provisioning center that closed around Christmas.

Hazel Park was followed by Center Line with roughly $540,000 in revenue from 10 stores and Inkster with about $486,000 from nine retailers. Other communities with sizable payouts include Ferndale with about $324,000 from six dispensaries, while Berkley and River Rouge each collected about $270,000 from five provisioning centers.

Statewide, Grand Rapids ranked second, collecting $1.46 million from its 27 dispensaries, followed by Lansing with $1.4 million, Ann Arbor with $1.2 million, and Kalamazoo with $1.03 million.

Each county also collects revenue for each dispensary within its borders. With 98 dispensaries, Wayne County has the most in the state and is collecting $5.29 million. Oakland County, with 49 dispensaries, ranks second, receiving $2.65 million. And Washtenaw County ranks third with $2.38 million from its 44 dispensaries.

Macomb and Genesee counties are tied at fifth, each collecting $1.89 million from its 35 dispensaries.

The payments are part of a formula approved by voters when Michigan legalized recreational marijuana in 2018. Under the law, 35% of marijuana excise tax revenue goes to the School Aid Fund for K-12 education, 35% goes to the Michigan Transportation Fund for roads and bridges, and the remaining 30% is split among municipalities, counties, and tribes where cannabis businesses are located.

The payouts have grown dramatically since the early days of legalization. In the first year of distributions, communities received about $28,000 per dispensary. That climbed to about $56,000 in 2021, roughly $51,800 in 2022, and nearly $59,000 in 2023 before dipping again this year.

The irony of Michigan's wholesale tax is hard to miss. Despite warnings from industry leaders, Whitmer and lawmakers approved a 24% wholesale tax that is projected to generate roughly $420 million annually for road repairs. But as sales continue to decline, the new tax is widely expected to weaken the state's legal cannabis market and reduce the excise tax revenue.

The wholesale tax went into effect on Jan. 1.

The Michigan Cannabis Industry Association, which represents more than 400 businesses, sued the state in the Court of Claims in October, arguing the tax is unconstitutional because it amends a voter-approved cannabis law without the required approval from three-quarters of the Legislature. When voters legalized recreational marijuana in 2018, they approved a 10% excise tax and 6% sales tax on retail cannabis sales. Any new or higher tax, the MCIA contends, amounts to an amendment of the ballot measure and therefore needs a supermajority vote.

Unlike the 10% excise excise tax paid by consumers at checkout, the wholesale tax applies when cannabis is transferred from growers to dispensaries. Businesses say the added layer raises costs in a market already struggling and puts workers at risk of getting laid off.

The legal cannabis industry employs more than 41,000 people statewide. MT

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Savage Love

Poly Under Duress

by Dan Savage

Dear Readers: I'm off this week. To tide you over until I'm back, the tech-savvy, at-risk youth pulled some classic "PUD" questions from the archives. A PUD, of course, is someone who is "poly under duress." Because while some of us start out poly and some of us achieve poly, others have poly thrust upon 'em. These are their stories. — ***Dan***

Q: *I'm a 25-year-old woman currently in a poly relationship with a married man roughly 20 years my senior. This has by far been the best relationship I've ever had. However, something has me a bit on edge. We went on a trip with friends to a brewery with a great restaurant. It was an amazing place, and I'm sure his wife would enjoy it. He mentioned the place to her, and her response was NO, she didn't want to go there because she didn't want to have "sloppy seconds." It made me feel dirty. Additionally, the way he brushed this off means this isn't the first time. I go out of my way to show him places I think they would like to go together. I don't know if my feelings are just hurt—if it's as childish as I think it is—or if it's a reminder of my very low place in their hierarchy. I hesitate to bring this up, because when I have needs or concerns, they label me as difficult or needy. Is this part of a bigger trend I'm missing? Should I do anything to address this or just continue to stay out of their business and go where I wish with my partner?*

—Treated With Outrage

A: I'm having a hard time reconciling these two statements: "This has by far been the best relationship I've ever had," and, "When I have needs or concerns, they label me as difficult or needy." I suppose it's possible all your past relationships have been so bad that your best-relationship-ever bar is set tragically low. But taking a partner's needs and concerns seriously is one of the hallmarks of a good relationship, to say nothing of a "best relationship ever."

That said...

I don't know you or how you are. It's entirely possible that you share your needs and concerns in a way that comes across as — or actually is — needy and difficult. Our experience of interpersonal relationships, like our experience of anything and everything, is subjective. One person's reasonable expression of needs/concerns is another person's emotionally manipulative drama. I would need to depose your boyfriend and his wife, TWO, to make a determination and issue a ruling.

That said...

It's a really bad sign that your boyfriend's wife compared eating in a restaurant you visited with him to fucking a hole that someone else just fucked, i.e., "sloppy seconds." It has me wondering whether your boyfriend's wife is really into the poly thing. Some people are poly under duress (PUD), i.e., they agreed to open up a marriage or relationship not because it's what they want, but because they were given an ultimatum: *We're open/poly or we're over*. In the best-case scenario, the PUD partner sees that their fears were overblown, discovers that poly/open works for them, embraces openness/polyamory, and is no longer a PUD. But PUDs who don't come around (or haven't come around yet) will engage in small acts of sabotage to signal their unhappiness — their perfectly understandable unhappiness. They didn't want to be open/poly in the first place and are determined to prove that open/poly was a mistake and/or punish their ultimatum-issuing partner. The most common form of PUD sabotage? Making their primary partner's secondary partner(s) feel uncomfortable and unwelcome.

That said...

As you (probably) know (or about to find out), poly relationships have all kinds of (sometimes incredibly arbitrary but also incredibly important) rules. If one of their rules is, "My wife doesn't want to hear about or from my girlfriend," TWO, then your restaurant recommendations are going to fall flat. Being poly means navigating rules (and sometimes asking to renegotiate those rules) and juggling multiple people's feelings, needs, and concerns. You have to show respect for their rules, TWO, as they are each other's primary partners.

That said...

Your boyfriend and his wife have to show respect for you, too. Secondary though you may be, your needs, concerns, feelings, etc., have to be taken into consideration. And if their rules make you feel disrespected, unvalued, or too low on the hierarchical poly totem pole, you should dump them. (Originally published October 11, 2017.)

Q: *My wife "Bianca" and I opened our marriage six months ago. It's safe to say our marriage "opened under duress." She found out I was cheating. Then, after years of struggling with monogamy, I told her it was open our marriage or divorce. I'm dating the woman with whom Bianca caught me cheating, "Valerie." I love both of them very much, and living a more honest version of my life has lifted a weight off of my shoulders. I'm worried I transferred that weight to Bianca, though.*

She's lonely and sad, and I don't know how to fix that. I'm a doctor, so I have a busy schedule. Now that Valerie figures into that, Bianca and I can go several days without seeing each other. Sometimes, when I'm home, we have to focus on chores, or I'm exhausted, so she feels we don't connect the way we used to. Any time I spend with Bianca is wonderful because I love her and she's my best friend, but I can definitely understand why the same isn't true for her. Bianca agrees that it's important for me to have time with Valerie — she's been incredibly benevolent and strong in that regard — and it pains me to know that the price for my happiness might come at the cost of the person I love most.

I've suggested Bianca spend more time with family and friends, that she try new hobbies, that she even seek a lover of her own. Her reply has been that she misses me, and what she thought our marriage was, and it's harder to find a solution to that. I'm around less. Do you have any suggestions on how to help us?

—Polyamorous Time Management

P.S. Before, Bianca and I would at most go two days without spending time together (time together meaning time when we're both awake and in the same room and includes eating together, exercising together, going on a date. Now it's more common for four days to pass before we're able to spend time together.)

A: Here's a suggestion for you: SPEND MORE TIME WITH YOUR FUCKING WIFE. Your marriage is open now, you're happier now, but if your newly open marriage is making your wife miserable... you're going to lose at least one of the women you claim to love, PTM, and you'll deserve to lose her.

Right now, time spent with Valerie is all joy time, pleasure time, and sexy fun time. Because Valerie isn't your spouse — so there are no chores you have to get done when you're with Valerie, no bills you have to go over when you're with Valerie, no collapsing on the couch in the vicinity of Valerie when you're both exhausted. While time spent with Bianca *can* be pleasurable (if you made an effort), the grind of daily life is all on Bianca's clock — a shared household to look after, living expenses to track, a mortgage to pay.

So, the time you spend with Bianca doing chores, paying bills, or zonked out on the couch shouldn't "count against" her share of your time and attention. Meaning, you need to split whatever time is left after chores, bills, or zoning-out-like-zombies between Valerie and Bianca. If you spent Monday and Tuesday night with Bianca paying bills and cleaning the house — never fun, has to be done, often a source of conflict — Valerie can't insist you spend the next two nights with her because you spent the last two with Bianca. Time spent doing chores/bills/zonking needs to be subtracted from the total amount of your available time and the remainder split between your wife and your girlfriend.

And your wife, for the time being, should get more of your non-grind time and attention. You had an affair and gave her a choice between divorce and openness when she discovered it — if you value Bianca, if you value your marriage, you need to prioritize her now. If your response to her grief and loneliness is "Hey, why don't you get a hobby?" *you're making poly people look terrible by being a terrible poly person*. It's understandable that you want to see your girlfriend as much as possible — NRE does that to a person — but you need to hold that in check. Your wife is not going to move from the PUD ("poly under duress") column and into the happy open marriage column if she only sees you three days a week and one or two of those days are consumed by chores, bills, and exhaustion. Your marriage won't survive if Valerie gets your best and your wife gets your scraps. And while your wife feels sad right now, PTM, she's going to get mad if you can't do better than "Hey, maybe you should go hang out with your mom while I bone my shiny new girlfriend?" (Originally published January 30, 2018.)

Q: *I understand that monogamy is not something people are good at — and that's fine. In fact, most of the people I know are in healthy poly or monogamish relationships. Here's the thing: I'm monogamous. Not the "I'm attracted to other people but won't act on it because it makes me uncomfortable or believe it's wrong" kind of monogamous, but the "I genuinely have ZERO desire to fuck anyone but my partner" kind of monogamous. Fantasizing about others is fun, so is looking, so is porn and role-play. There's a world of deliciously kinky, weird, and wonderful sex stuff I'd LOVE to explore until my sexy bits fall off. But I want to do those things with one partner and one partner only in a monogamous, intimate relationship. Here's the kicker: I'd like my partner to feel the same way. I don't want someone to enter into a monogamous relationship with me if in their heart/groin they'd genuinely like to fuck other people. Am I a lost cause? Surely, I can't be the only genuinely monogamous person there is? I'm 31 and still turn heads, but I worry my quest for a partner who feels as I do is impossible and a waste of my time.*

—One 4 One

A: You value monogamy, you want a monogamous commitment, and you want someone who feels and wants the same. That great, O4O, and you have my full support. And I think it's great that you're able to acknowledge that fantasies about others can be fun — as can looking at others, as can watching porn, as can pretending to be others.

If you're having a hard time finding a partner who wants what you want — a monogamous commitment without the stress of maintaining the monogamous pretense/facade/fraud, i.e., pretending they don't at least think about fucking other people — either you're living in some sort of poly/PUD parallel universe where nonmonogamy is the default setting or you're not giving others the same benefit of the doubt you've given yourself. You wanna fuck other people and you don't seem to think that disqualifies you from making, honoring, and genuinely wanting both a monogamous commitment *and* a monogamous sex life. (The two don't always go hand in hand.)

If you're breaking up with people for admitting to the same things you've admitted to in your question — you might *think* about fucking other people, but you don't want to *actually* fuck other people — then you're the reason your quest to find a partner has been so frustrating. (Originally published January 20, 2016.)

Q: *I don't know if I'm poly or not. I mean, Jesus H. Christ, this has been so difficult. How do I know when to go back to monogamy?*

—Pretty Over Lusty Yearnings

A: I don't think anyone is poly, POLY, for the same reason I don't think anyone is monogamous: polyamory and monogamy are relationship models, not sexual orientations. And if the polyamorous model is making you miserable, POLY, that could be a sign that polyamory isn't right for you. But you should ask yourself whether polyamory is making you miserable or if it's the people you're doing it with or for that are making you miserable. (Are you PUD?) People in awful monogamous relationships rarely blame monogamy for their woes — even when monogamy is a factor — but the stigma against nontraditional relationship models is so great that even poly (or wannabe) poly will blame polyamory for their misery when the actual cause isn't the model, POLY, it's the people. (Originally published October 11, 2017.) MT

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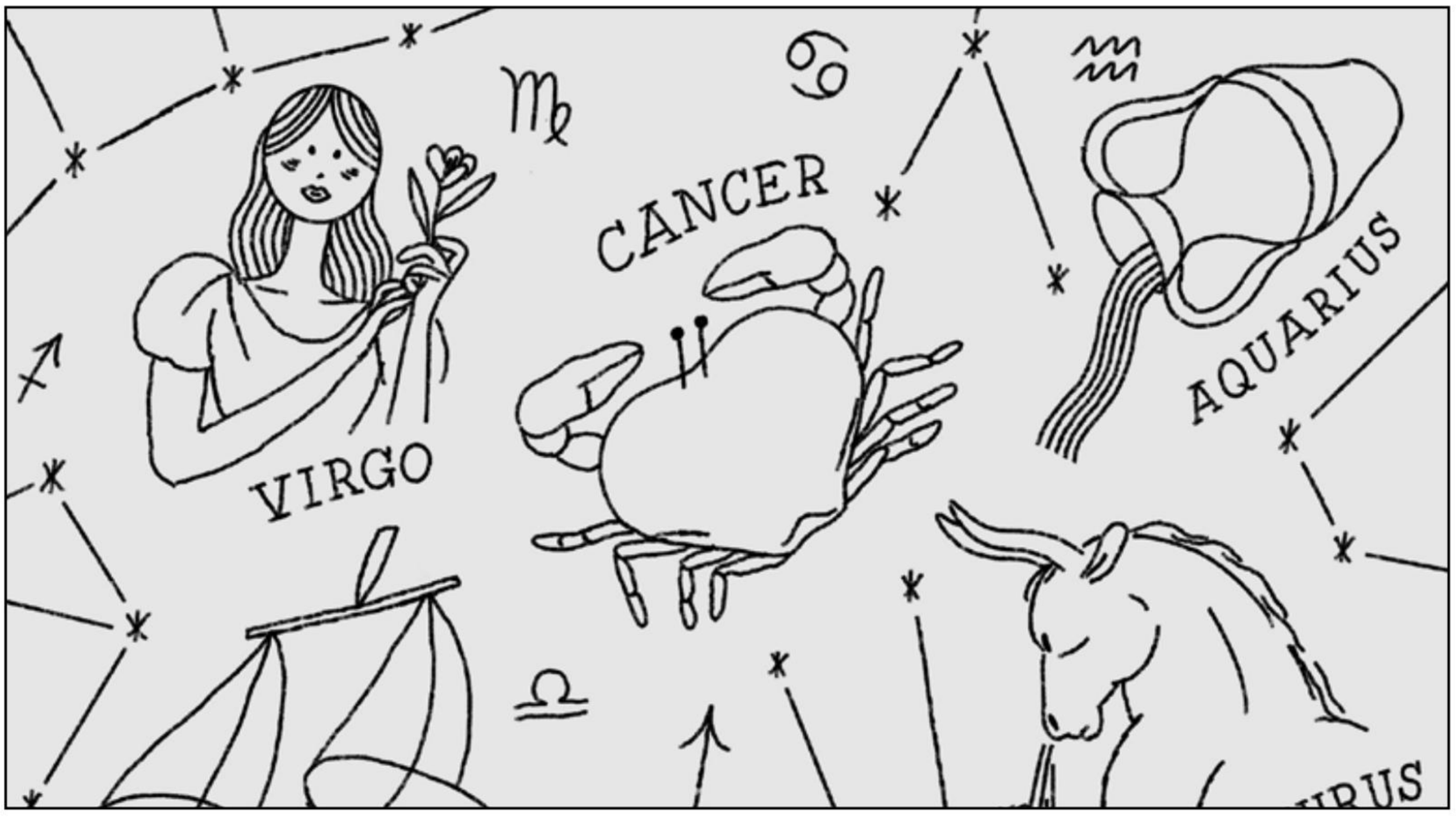

JAMES NOELLERT

ARIES: March 21 – April 19
In 1960, Aries primatologist Jane Goodall arrived in Tanzania to study the social and family lives of chimpanzees. Her intention was to engage in patient, long-term observation. In subsequent months, she saw the creatures using tools, a skill that scientists had previously believed only humans could do. She also found that "it isn't only human beings who have personality, who are capable of rational thought and emotions like joy and sorrow." Her discoveries revolutionized our understanding of animal intelligence. I recommend her approach to you in the coming weeks, Aries. Your diligent, tenacious attention can supplant outmoded assumptions. Let the details and rhythms of what you're studying reveal their deeper truths. Your affectionate watchfulness will change the story.

TAURUS: April 20 – May 20
Ancient Romans had a household deity called Cardea, goddess of hinges and thresholds. She protected the pivot points, like the places where the inside meets the outside and where one state transforms into another. In the coming weeks, you Tauruses will benefit from befriending a similar deity. I hope you will pay eager attention to the metaphorical hinges in your world: the thresholds, portals, transitions, and in-between times. They may sometimes feel awkward because they lack the certainty you crave. But I guarantee that they are where the best magic congregates.

GEMINI: May 21 – June 20
You are fluent in the art of fruitful contradiction. While others pursue one-dimensional consistency, you thrive on the fact that the truth is too wild and multifaceted to be captured in a single, simple story. You make spirited use of paradox and enjoy being enchanted by riddles. You can be both serious and playful, committed and curious, strong and receptive. In the coming weeks, Gemini, I hope you will express these superpowers to the max. The world doesn't need another person who separates everything into neat little categories. Your nimble intelligence and charming multiplicity are the gifts your allies need most.

CANCER: June 21 – July 22
In traditional Japanese aesthetics, *wabi-sabi* celebrates imperfection, impermanence, and the soulfulness that comes with age. A weathered wooden gate may be considered more beautiful than a new one. Its surface has a silvery grain from years of exposure to rain and sun. Its hinges creak from long use by countless passersby. Let's invoke this lovely concept as we ruminate on your life, Cancerian. In my astrological estimation, it's important that in the coming months you don't treat your incompleteness as a deficit requiring correction. Consider the possibility that your supposed blemishes may be among your most interesting features. The idiosyncratic aspects of your character are precisely what make you a source of vitality.

LEO: July 23 – August 22
In medieval Japan, swordsmiths would undertake spiritual purifications before beginning work on a new blade: abstinence, ritual bathing, prayer, and fasting. They believed that the quality of their consciousness influenced the quality of their creation—that the blade would absorb the maker's mental and spiritual state. I bring this to your attention because you're in a phase when your inner condition will have extra potent effects on everything you build, develop, or initiate. My advice: Prepare yourself with impeccable care before launching new projects. Purify your motivations. Clarify your vision. The creations you will be generating could serve you well for a long time.

VIRGO: August 23 – Sept. 22
Master chess players don't necessarily calculate more moves ahead than amateurs. Their years of study enable them to perceive the developing trends in a single glance, bypassing complex analysis. What appears to be stellar intuition is actually compressed expertise. You're in a phase when you can make abundant use of this capacity, Virgo. Again and again, your accumulated experience will crystallize into immediate knowing. So don't second-guess your first assessments, OK? Trust the pattern recognition that you have cultivated through the years.

LIBRA: Sept. 23 – Oct. 22
The cosmic powers have granted you a triple-strength, extra-long, time-release dose of sweet, fresh certainty. During the grace period that's beginning, you will be less tempted to indulge in doubt and indecision. A fountain of resolve will rise up in you whenever you need it. Though at first the lucid serenity you feel may seem odd, you could grow accustomed to it—so much so that you could permanently lose up to 20 percent of your chronic tendency to vacillate.

SCORPIO: Oct. 23 – Nov. 21:
Crows can hold grudges against individual humans for years. But they also remember acts of kindness and bring gifts like shiny objects and buttons to those who've helped them. They're capable of both revenge and gratitude, and they never forget either. I suspect you're entering a period when you'll need to decide which of your crow-like qualities to emphasize, Scorpio. You have legitimate grievances worth remembering. You have also received gifts worth honoring. My counsel: Spend 20 percent of your emotional energy on remembering wrongs (enough to protect yourself) and 80 percent on remembering what has helped you thrive. Make gratitude your primary teacher, even as you stay wisely wary.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 22 – Dec. 21
More than any other zodiac sign, you Sagittarians can be both a discontented rebel and a sunny celebrant of life. You can see clearly what's out of alignment and needs adjustment without surrendering your wry, amused tolerance. This double capacity will be especially useful to you in the coming days. You may not find many allies who share this aptitude, though, so you should lean on your own instincts and heed the following suggestions: Be joyfully defiant. Be a generous agitator and an open-hearted critic. Blessings will find their way to you as you subvert the stale status quo with creativity and kindness.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22 – Jan. 19
Your persistence and endurance are among your greatest gifts to the world. You're committed to building useful structures that outlast transitory moods and trends. On behalf of all the other signs, I say THANK YOU!, dear Capricorn. You understand that real power comes from showing up consistently and doing unglamorous work, refraining from the temptation to score quick and superficial victories. May you always recognize that your pragmatism is a form of loving faith. Your cautionary care is rooted in generosity. Now here's my plea: More than ever before, the rest of us need you to express these talents with full vigor.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 20 – Feb. 18
One of your power symbols right now is the place where two tributaries blend into a single river. A second is where your favorite tree enters the earth. Here are other images to excite your imagination and stimulate your creativity: the boundary between cloud and sky; the darkness where your friend's shadow overlaps yours; and the time between when the sun sets and night falls. To sum up, Aquarius, I hope you will access extra inspiration in liminal areas. Seek the vibrant revelations that arise where one mystery coalesces with another.

PISCES: Feb.19 – March 20
Poet Mark Doty wrote, "The sea doesn't reward those who are too anxious, too greedy, or too impatient. We should lie as empty, open, and choiceless as a beach—waiting for gifts from the sea." This quote captures your Piscean genius when it's working at its best. Others may exhaust themselves trying to force results, but you know that the best gifts often come to those who are patient, open, and relaxed. This is true right now more than ever before. I hope you will practice intense receptivity. Protect your permeability like the superpower it is. Be as supple and responsive as you dare.

Homework: *What message will you send the person you'll be in 3 years?* MT

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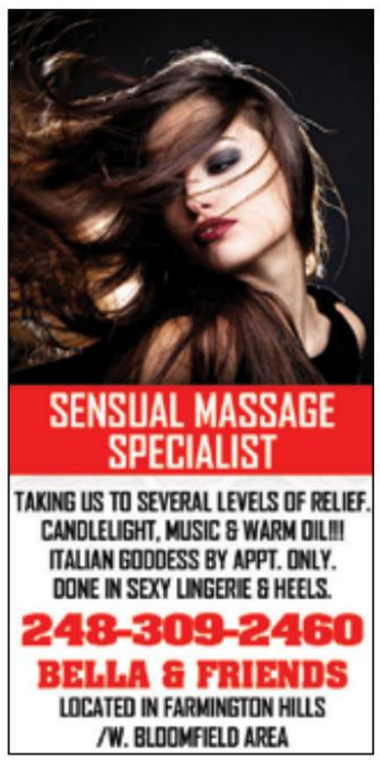
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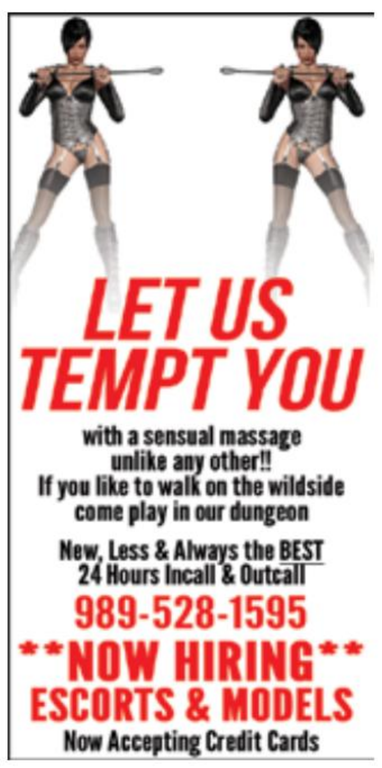
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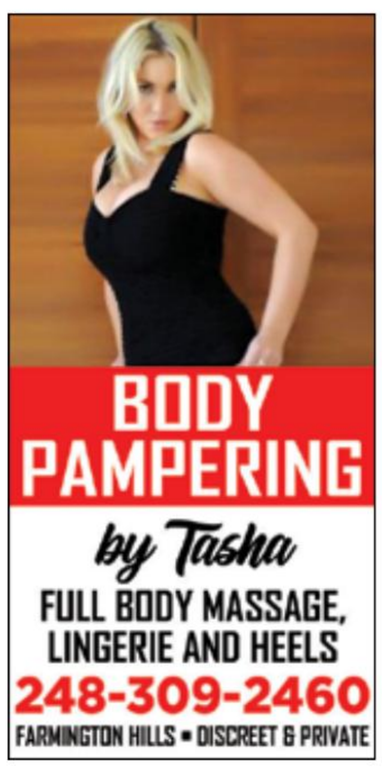

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